FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 88 *5 May 1978*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

AL-'AMAL: Cubans Operating in Southern Lebanon A 1 1/A7
PLO: UN Resolution Ambiguity Causes Lebanese Incidents A 1 1/A7
PLO Criticizes Move of UNRWA Headquarters From Beirut A 1 1/A7
PLO's Qaddumi Arrives in Belgrade, Makes Statement [VOP] A 1 1/A7
Palestinians Claim Credit for Israeli Bus Explosions [VOP] A 2 1/A8
Arab Economic Council Secretary Gives Press Conference A 3 1/A9

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Kuwait, Bulgaria Sign Trade, Communication Agreements C 1 1/A10

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ Views U.S. Aircraft Deal With Arabs, Israel [27 Apr] C 1 1/A10
Islamic Body Protests Afghan Treatment of Moslem Leaders C 2 1/A11

UAE

Ajman Crown Prince Comments on Carter Statements C 2 1/A11

PDRY

Prime Minister Returns Home From Asian Tour C 2 1/A11

YAR

Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM Views Political Situation in YAR [29 Apr] C 3 1/A12

EGYPT

U.S. Aircraft Deal Test of Arab Strength [AKHBAR AL-YAWM 29 Apr] D 1 1/A14
Sudanese President Numayri Concludes Visit D 3 1/B2
Numayri Press Conference D 3 1/B2
Meets With Arab League's Riyad D 4 1/B3
Numayri, Riyad to Damascus D 5 1/B4
As-Sadat Receives Riyad, Romanian Ambassador D 5 1/B4

IRAQ

Zionists Linked to Murder of Egyptian Communist Leader E 1 1/B5
Israel Asks Jordan's Help To Find Lost Officer E 1 1/B5
INA Reports Iraqi-Cuban Talks Concluded in Havana E 1 1/B5
Information Minister Returns From Cuba, Spain Visit E 1 1/B5

Delegation Returns From Communist Youth Meetings	E	1	1/B6
Iraqi Delegation Leaves for Hungary Meetings	E	2	1/B6
Defense Committee Scores Damascus on Detainees	E	2	1/B6
AL-QABAS: Most Iraqi Political Refugees Returned Home [4 May]	E	2	1/B6
Iraq, Iran Sign Accord on Tourism Cooperation	E	3	1/B7
Iraq, Ireland Sign Health Cooperation Agreement	E	3	1/B7
Yugoslav Deputy Defense Minister Visits Baghdad	E	3	1/B7
Eritrean Liberation Front Official Arrives Baghdad	E	3	1/B7
ATH-THAWRAH: Saddam Husayn Talks About Socialism [4 May]	E	4	1/B8

JORDAN

JORDAN TIMES Criticizes Carter's Mideast Performance [3 May]	F	1	1/B9
Crown Prince Hasan Discusses West Bank Problems	F	1	1/B9
Husayn Meets With Czechoslovak Foreign Minister	F	2	1/B10
Labor Minister Returns From Pakistan, Makes Statement	F	2	1/B10
Swedish Communications Minister Concludes Visit	F	3	1/B11
AR-RA'Y Reports on Tribal Clash in Village [5 May]	F	3	1/B11

LEBANON

Patriotic Front Central Command Meets; Statement Issued	G	1	1/B12
Nationalist Movement Leader Addresses London Press Conference	G	1	1/B12
Sham'un, Al-Jumayyil Meet, Comment on New Government [Voice of Lebanon]	G	2	1/B13
UNIFIL Commander Erskine Arrives in Beirut	G	2	1/B13
Beirut: Normal Life Resumes in Tyre; Gendarmerie Assume Duties	G	3	1/B14
French Commander Recovering in Beirut Hospital	G	3	1/B14
Car of Missing UN Official Found in As-Sarafand [Voice of Lebanon]	G	3	1/B14
Public Security Directorate Suspends AL-JARIDAH	G	3	1/B14

SYRIA

Sudanese President Numayri Arrives in Damascus	H	1	1/C1
TISHRIN: Syria Will Not Meet With Capitulationists	H	1	1/C1
ICATU Official Back in Damascus Following Moscow Visit	H	1	1/C1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

ANC Leader Tambo Leaves Algeria for Tripoli	I	1	1/C2

LIBYA

Chadian Foreign Minister Arrives in Libya	I	1	1/C2
Armed Forces Chief Jabir Attends Missile Tests	I	1	1/C2

SUDAN

First Vice President Sends Message on Chad to Al-Qadhdhafi	I	1	1/C2
PLO Representative Briefs Vice President Ibrahim	I	2	1/C3

TUNISIA

LA PRESSE: Carter Statement 'Inconsistent' With Resolution 242	I	2	1/C3

WESTERN SAHARA

Mauritanian, French Forces Clash With POLISARIO I 3 1/C4
POLISARIO Claims 27 April Battle Victory I 3 1/C4
Algiers: POLISARIO Satisfied With Delegation Visits to Europe I 3 1/C4
Committee for Saharan Solidarity Ends Madrid Meeting I 3 1/C4

ISRAEL

Begin Comments on Talks in U.S.; Sees Hope N 1 1/C5
Labor Party Critical of Begin Statements N 1 1/C5
Correspondent Reports Dayan's Comments on U.S. Talks N 1 1/C5
More on Dayan Remarks N 2 1/C6
Foreign Ministry Denies Report N 3 1/C7
DAVAR Discusses Dayan's Proposals to U.S. [4 May] N 3 1/C7
IDF Denies Knowledge of Cubans in S. Lebanon [MA'ARIV 4 May] N 4 1/C8
POST on Gierek's Remarks About Polish Recognition [5 May] N 4 1/C8
DMC Committee Discusses Total West Bank Withdrawal N 6 1/C10
Forbidden Books List Distributed in Territories N 6 1/C10
PLO Leaflet Incites Students To Damage Vehicles N 6 1/C10
Military Government Bans Gathering of W. Bank Notables N 6 1/C10
MA'ARIV Criticizes UN Handling of S. Lebanon Situation [4 May] N 7 1/C11
Soviet Union Increasing Number of Exit Visas N 8 1/C12
Koor Exports Artillery to 25 Countries [HA'AREZ 4 May] N 8 1/C12
Finance Minister Ehrlich Leaves for Italy N 8 1/C12
Dayan's Tour to Scandinavia to Coincide With Kamil's N 8 1/C12

IRAN

Forlani Leaves, Says Efforts Underway To Save Moro R 1 1/C13
Justice Minister Comments on Recent 'Incidents' R 2 1/C14
Senegalese President, Wife Conclude Visit R 2 1/C14

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Interior Ministry Warns Against 'Spies, Saboteurs' S 1 1/D1
AFP on Number Killed During Afghan Coup S 1 1/D1
TANJUG: Situation 'Completely Normalized' in Kabul S 1 1/D1
TANJUG: Provincial Governors Changed in Afghanistan S 2 1/D2
Brezhnev, Kosygin Congratulations Reported S 3 1/D3
Gromyko's Congratulatory Message S 3 1/D3
Soviet Ambassador Calls on Deputy Premier Karmal S 4 1/D4
SRV's Pham Van Dong Announces Recognition of New Regime S 4 1/D4
PDRY Recognizes New Government of Afghanistan S 4 1/D4
Bulgarian, Polish Envoys Call on Foreign Minister S 4 1/D4

BANGLADESH

Paper Reports on Situation of Burmese Moslem Refugees S 4 1/D4
USSR To Aid Bangladesh in Oil Exploration Work S 5 1/D5

INDIA

Vajpayee Discusses UN Special Session on Disarmament	S 6	1/D6
Supreme Court Cancels Sanjay Gandhi's Bail	S 6	1/D6
Afghanistan Ambassador in Delhi Relieved	S 7	1/D7
Yugoslav Foreign Minister Arrives in Delhi	S 7	1/D7
PDRY Prime Minister Leaves Delhi for Aden	S 8	1/D8

PAKISTAN

Haq Meets Political Leaders in Lahore 3 May	S 8	1/D8
Agha Shahi, Malaysian Foreign Minister Hold Talks	S 8	1/D8

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51

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AL-'AMAL: CUBANS OPERATING IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC041430Y Cairo DPA in Arabic 1355 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 4 May--The Lebanese rightist newspaper AL-'AMAL says today that Cuban soldiers are presently carrying out operations in southern Lebanon.

AL-'AMAL, the Phalangist mouthpiece, quotes Palestinian sources as saying that Cuban commando experts have arrived in southern Lebanon under an agreement reached between George Habash, leader of the extremist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], and Cuban President Fidel Castro.

The paper says that the Cubans were smuggled into Lebanon via the port of Sidon. The paper adds that the Cubans are currently engaged in training fedayeen belonging to the extremist rejection front to lay mines and ambushes and to blow up bridges and vehicles.

It has been reported that one of their training camps is located near An-Nabatiyah township.

PLO: UN RESOLUTION AMBIGUITY CAUSES LEBANESE INCIDENTS

LD041050Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Mr al-Qalaq, permanent representative of the PLO in Paris, considers that the latest incidents in southern Lebanon stem from the ambiguity of UN Security Council Resolution 425. According to him, the mission of the blue helmets is to watch over the withdrawal of the Israeli forces and to reestablish the sovereignty and the unity of Lebanon. He reproached General Erskine, the commander of the blue helmets, for giving his troops the order to fire on Palestinians and Lebanese when it is the Israelis who are the occupiers and the aggressors. However, all in all, Mr al-Qalaq considers that the attitude of the French Government is positive in this affair.

PLO CRITICIZES MOVE OF UNRWA HEADQUARTERS FROM BEIRUT

JN050754Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 5 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 5 May--The PLO has strongly criticized the decision to transfer the headquarters of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] from Lebanon. The PLO sees this measure as a new indication of UNRWA's gradual abandonment of its responsibilities.

Tawfiq as-Safadi, chairman of the Higher Committee for Palestinian Affairs, warned in a statement published today of the negative effects that will follow this step, particularly with regard to stability in Lebanon. Meanwhile, it was announced in Beirut today that the Lebanese Foreign Ministry has begun contacts with the United Nations to learn the reasons for the transfer of UNRWA and the possibility of having this decision rescinded.

PLO'S QADDUMI ARRIVES IN BELGRADE, MAKES STATEMENT

JN041754Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, arrived in Belgrade yesterday afternoon to hold talks with the Yugoslav leaders on the Middle East and the nonalined movement.

Brother Abu al-Lutf was accompanied by Brother 'Abd al-Munsin abu Mayzar, member of the PLO Executive Committee, and was joined by the PLO representative in Yugoslavia. Upon his arrival at the airport, Abu al-Lutf was met by Comrade Budimir Loncar, under secretary in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

In a statement to journalists at Belgrade airport, Brother Abu al-Lutf talked about the aim of this visit. He said: It takes place as one of the Palestinian visits to Yugoslavia to exchange viewpoints, mainly on the latest Middle East developments, Palestinian-Yugoslav relations, the forthcoming meeting of the nonalined countries' coordination bureau and the results of the Islamic conference recently held in the Senegalese capital, Dakar.

Abu al-Lutf is due to meet today with Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia.

PALESTINIANS CLAIM CREDIT FOR ISRAELI BUS EXPLOSIONS

JN041842Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] A timed explosive charge went off this afternoon inside one of the buses of the Zionist Egged Company which had stopped at the central bus station in the city of Yafo. The incident led to the injury of six of the enemy and serious damage to the bus.

Another explosive charge went off this afternoon in another bus of the Zionist Egged Company while it was at the central bus station in the city of Jerusalem. This led to the complete destruction of the bus and to the damage of other buses inside the station. Moreover, a number of the Zionist settlers who happened to be near the site of the explosion were wounded. This was announced in two military statements issued this afternoon by the military spokesman of the general command of the Palestinian revolution forces.

The first statement reads as follows: Upon instructions, special group A this afternoon, 4 May 1978, moved toward its specified target according to plan and managed to place timed explosive charges inside a bus of the Zionist Egged Company while it was stopped inside the central bus station in the city of Yafo. The charges were discovered at 1445 that same afternoon as the bus was nearing the city of Acre. The bus was immediately evacuated and the Zionist explosive experts and the enemy police in the area carried the explosives out. While they were trying to defuse them, the explosives went off, injuring about six of the enemy police--according to the Zionist spokesman's confession--and causing serious damage to the bus.

Following the operation, the occupation authorities stopped traffic on the Yafo-Acre road and began combing the area. Forces from the police, army and border guards took part in the search.

Regarding the second operation, the Palestinian spokesman said: One of our fighting groups working inside the occupied homeland has managed to completely destroy one of the Zionist buses of Egged Company inside the central bus station in the city of Jerusalem. The timed explosive charges planted by our revolutionaries inside the bus went off when the bus was at the central bus station at 1600 today, 4 May. As a result of the explosion, several Zionist buses inside the station were damaged. A number of the settlers near the scene of the explosion received wounds.

Following the operation, the Zionist forces arrested many of the Palestinian citizens in the area under the pretext of interrogation. Meanwhile, all our revolutionaries returned safely to their bases.

ARAB ECONOMIC COUNCIL SECRETARY GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE

JN032100Y Manama Gulf News Agency in Arabic 1450 GMT 3 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Cairo, 3 May--Dr Fawzi Qadduri, secretary general of the Arab Economic Unity Council, today held his first press conference after assuming his new responsibilities. In his conference, Dr Qadduri stressed the need for liberating the Arab economy from the foreign subservience which restricts the financial and human potentials in several Arab countries.

Dr Qadduri said that the liberation of the Arab economy represents one of the requisites for achieving an integrated Arab economy. He stressed the need to allow Arab financial and human potentials to occupy their broad and crucial position so that they can play their role in achieving social and economic integration in the Arab homeland.

Speaking about the gains scored by the Arab Economic Unity Council during past years, Dr Qadduri said that these gains are high and sophisticated in terms of comprehensiveness and of financial, economic and political objectives on the road of achieving a developed Arab economy. He said: We must exert strenuous efforts and increase these gains, relying in this on firm, objective and scientific bases.

KUWAIT

KUWAIT, BULGARIA SIGN TRADE, COMMUNICATION AGREEMENTS

JN0416227 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 4 May--'Abd al-Wahab an-Nifisi, Kuwaiti minister of commerce and industry, and Khristo Khristov, Bulgarian minister of foreign trade, signed in Kuwait today a trade agreement between Kuwait and Bulgaria. The Kuwaiti minister expressed the hope that trade exchange in various fields between the two countries will be increased.

Sulayman Hamid az-Zayd, Kuwaiti minister of communications, and the Bulgarian minister have also signed two agreements. The first on cooperation in the field of post and telecommunications and the second on cooperation in the fields of research, design and technical expertise in the postal service field.

The Bulgarian minister and the accompanying delegation will leave Kuwait tomorrow, Friday, for Athens.

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ VIEWS U.S. AIRCRAFT DEAL WITH ARABS, ISRAEL

LD0412037 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 27 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] President Jimmy Carter has declared that his country is committed to the arms deal with the Arabs and Israel, despite strong opposition by the Zionist lobby inside and outside Congress. If, the U.S. President emphasized, a balance of power is to be achieved in the area, then such balance cannot be brought about by U.S. policies which have turned Israel into an armed garrison. The whole world, including the United States, realizes that Israel does not use weapons to achieve a balance, but uses them for aggression, for realizing Zionist expansionist ambitions, for dispersing the indigenous citizens and replacing them with immigrants from various countries, and for colonizing purposes. The United States is the first to realize that military support for Israel is a major factor in obstructing peace efforts.

If the United States is serious about achieving a balance, then the amount of weapons it gives to Israel should be equal to the amount it gives to each Arab country, because giving Israel arms equal in quantity to the arms in possession of all the Arab countries gives Israel superiority over each Arab country separately as well as over the Arab community as a whole. The United States must pursue such a policy, for it is the path that will lead to peace in the Middle East and, at the same time, will achieve a balance of power in the area.

For 30 years, Israel has received arms with which to carry out aggression against the Arab nation. It does so because it realizes that it is backed by U.S. military might. Therefore, changing Washington's view on the balance of power is a necessity so that each Arab country can achieve its own balance of power with Israel. Such a change in Washingtons' view will achieve comprehensive peace if the United States is really serious about achieving it.

ISLAMIC BODY PROTESTS AFGHAN TREATMENT OF MOSLEM LEADERS

LD032212Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2057 GMT 3 May 78 LD

[Text] Jidda--The Islamic World League has denounced the barbarous actions to which the Moslem ulemas and Moslem theologians are currently being subjected in Afghanistan. A number of Moslem ulemas, including Shaykh Jall Mohammad, have fallen victim to these barbarous actions.

In a statement issued today the league urged the states of the Islamic world, particularly the member states of the Congress of the Permanent Secretariat for Mosques, the Higher Council for Mosques, and humanitarian organizations to protest these actions. The Islamic World League demanded the investigation of those who committed these crimes so that the bloody massacres which the Moslem ulemas are being subjected to in Afghanistan will be halted. The statement stressed the Islamic peoples' rejection of Marxist principles, regardless of the pressure and crimes against these peoples.

UAE

AJMAN CROWN PRINCE COMMENTS ON CARTER STATEMENTS

NC040950Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0842 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 May--Shaykh Hamad ibn Rashid an-Nu'aymi, heir apparent of the Emirate of Ajman--one of the UAE emirates--has affirmed that U.S. President Jimmy Carter's recent statements have revealed beyond any doubt that it is imperative for the Arabs to derive their strength from their own resources. He said that by taking this position, the United States has embarrassed many of its friends in the area.

Ajman's heir apparent was thus commenting on the press statements recently attributed to President Carter on the settlement of the Middle East conflict. In his statements, Carter had noted that the Middle East issue will be solved without the establishment of a Palestinian state and that the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will be decided in accordance with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's plan.

In his statement, published today by the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, Shaykh Hamad ibn Rashid an-Nu'aymi emphasizes the importance of Arab solidarity, the unity of Arab ranks and the need to convene a summit conference to lay new bases for this solidarity. He said that is is high time to end all inter-Arab differences and to search for a sound formula for laying firm foundations, which would achieve real solidarity among the Arabs.

PDRY

PRIME MINISTER RETURNS HOME FROM ASIAN TOUR

LD041620Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 May 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad returned to Aden today after visits to the PRC, the DPRK and Vietnam. He was met at the airport by National Front Secretary General 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, head of state Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali and other top officials.

"In a statement on his return, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said: Our visits to the PRC, the DPRK and socialist Vietnam were successful and fruitful. He said that during the visits to these friendly countries he was able to see the achievements of the workers there. He went on to say that the visits had contributed to the development of cooperation and relations between democratic Yemen and those countries. Opinions had been exchanged on a number of international issues and Arab developments. He said: During my visit to the PRC a new economic and technical cooperation agreement between the two countries was signed."

The hospitality accorded the delegation in all countries had been most cordial. "He said: On our way home we paid a friendly visit to the Republic of India, during which we held meetings with the president and prime minister and several other high-ranking officials, with whom we discussed the importance of promoting relations between our peoples and governments."

YAR

CAIRO AKHBAR AL-YAWM VIEWS POLITICAL SITUATION IN YAR

LD041856Y Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 29 Apr 78 p 6 LD

[Excerpts] San'a'--Nabil Fahmi dispatch--In which direction will the YAR go after it has become a hot tension area which the major powers are struggling to control?

Will San'a' fall into the lap of the Soviets, will it return to the era of rule by tribal chieftains or will it fall under the control of the armed forces?

If we look at the powers currently involved in the conflict inside the YAR we find that there are three: communism, the tribesmen and the army.

The role of communism is represented by the Soviet presence in the Red Sea area, which is aimed at bringing San'a' into the communist fold, using as its slogan the unification of both parts of Yemen and the establishment of a powerful progressive party there. The USSR's aim is to diminish the Saudi role in the YAR and impose its own influence in the Red Sea area so that it will be in a position to threaten oil sources in the gulf and Saudi Arabia. It also aims at threatening Egypt and Sudan by gaining control over the entrance to Bab el Mandeb, thus insuring its interests in the Horn of Africa.

Aden is playing an active role in the YAR with the help of clandestine leftist parties which have considerable influence in the country.

The Soviet Union is concentrating its efforts on San'a' in particular because it is the largest population center, because it has the largest manpower supply in the area, and because a large number of YAR citizens are working in the gulf area.

The tribal struggle has been going on for a long time but it has recently intensified in an attempt to take power or, at least, participate in it. The tribes have declared their conditions for halting this struggle. These, briefly stated, are as follows:

Reinstatement of the Consultative Assembly, formation of a popular army from the tribes, adoption of a clear stand toward Aden, release of political detainees, giving more freedom and curbing the influence of military figures in the government.

Negotiations are still going on between the regime headed by Chairman al-Ghashmi and the tribes in order to conclude a national reconciliation that would realize the objectives of both sides. But the situation was exacerbated when Chairman al-Ghashmi selected members of the YAR People's Assembly without including in it former Consultative Assembly Chairman 'Abdallah Husayn al-Ahmar, who belongs to the Hashid tribe--the most powerful among the YAR tribes. He also failed to include Shaykh Sinan Abu al-Luhum of the Bakil tribe and one of its strongmen, and Ahmad al-Matari, chief of the Ibn Matar tribe.

These tribal chieftains considered this failure a personal provocation which further exacerbated tension and struggle.

As for the struggle within the army, a party political struggle is quite evident within the ranks of the armed forces. Despite the fact that there is a law banning party politics in the army, various YAR parties and political groups are engaged in a conflict within the army.

The conflict between these powers inside the YAR is obviously increasing and is thus exacerbating tensions. This has led to the emergence of several problems facing the YAR regime. These are:

--the absence of a powerful central government. Despite the fact that many laws have been enacted, none of them has been implemented.

--The mounting rate of inflation and increasing prices have reached the point where the YAR has become one of the world's most expensive countries. This is due to the large amounts of foreign aid and to the large number of YAR citizens working abroad whose remittances to the YAR are estimated at $3 million daily.

There is also the fact that the outcome of investigations into the assassination of late Chairman al-Hamadi is still vague and remains one of the most important problems facing the present regime.

However, despite all these conflicts and problems, Chairman al-Ghashmi is still in control and is managing the country's affairs skillfully and astutely.

Despite all the attempts on the part of Chairman al-Ghashmi, however, the situation is still unstable. The YAR has reached the point where crucial decisions must be made.

--Will it go back to the era of tribal chieftains?

--Will it fall into the hands of the communists?

--Will the army take control?

These three questions will be reiterated until the end of this year. Meanwhile, everybody is watching the movements and decisions of Chairman al-Ghashmi and wondering whether he will be able to control the situation with his well-known skill and efficiency.

U.S. AIRCRAFT DEAL TEST OF ARAB STRENGTH

LD0413046Y Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 29 Apr 78 p 7 LD

[Abd al-Hamid 'Abd al-Ghani article: "A Test For Us and a Test For Them"]

[Text] The decision the U.S. Congress makes on the aircraft deal is more a test of the strength of the Arabs than of Israel.

For the first time since the outbreak of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the "lawyer" supporting the Arab demands and opposing the Israeli demands on the question of U.S. arms supplies to the two sides is the U.S. President himself.

The Arab demands in this regard in particular are in the interest of the United States because they concern the purchase of military planes from it, whereas the Israeli demands are against such interests because they would prompt the Arabs to buy such planes or their equivalent from other countries.

The Arab demands are clearly in the interest of the United States--political, economic, and strategic interests--whereas Israeli demands could mean depriving the United States of vast interests. Indeed, they might even lead to shifting these interests or some of them to other countries--France, for example, which is a friend of the United States and which has its own interests in the Arab world.

If the Arabs lose, despite their demands and the "lawyer" defending them, then no one knows what case the Arabs can win in the U.S. Congress. If Israel wins, regardless of the fact that its demands are clearly in contradiction to U.S. political and economic interests, then they will never lose any case put to the U.S. Congress, whose influence is as great, if not greater, than that of the President in foreign policy making.

Therefore, the Congress now has before it a "test case." We do not deny that it is a difficult test, despite the fact that it is a clear-cut case.

First, the Congress is not a court of justice nor are its members judges, but it is an authority whose members are politicians. A politician keeps in mind those who elected him, public opinion, the factors influencing public opinion and the voters more than he does the specific case--particularly in a case where those who influence public opinion play a direct and effective role.

Second, the sale of U.S. military planes to two Arab states is primarily a "political stand."

Despite the fact that the number of aircraft Egypt is asking to purchase is fewer and less advanced than those obtained by Israel, which is now asking for more, the approval of the U.S. government--that is, the White House and the Defense Department--for the sale of such planes to Egypt is a political decision of great importance and significance.

This small arms deal concluded for the first time between a major power and a small one is not measured by its size or by the type of weapons involved as much as by its political significance. We in Egypt are well aware of this.

The arms deal known as the Czechoslovak arms deal was not large nor were the weapons we purchased initially the latest or most powerful. But the deal determined our political course for 20 years, during which Soviet influence infiltrated many aspects of Egypt's political, economic, and ideological life. In the meantime, estrangement and strained relations prevailed between us and the United States, which refused to sell us a small quantity of arms at a time when Egypt needed to equip its young army with modern weapons in order to repel the attacks Israel had begun to launch on our borders.

Furthermore, there is a third factor, which is the most important of all. There is no doubt that the Congress fully realizes that its decision on the aircraft deal will be of great importance and will have far-reaching results.

The two Arab countries to whom the U.S. President decided to sell military aircraft have a special position and particular importance.

The Saudi Arabian Kingdom, with financial reserves now reaching $80 billion, is one of the mainstays on which the dollar relies in its current crisis. It is also one of the major sources from which the United States imports its oil, for which it pays in dollars at a reasonable price.

Egypt, on its part, has singlehandedly taken steps that call for a great amount of courage and confidence in order to change the situation in an area that remained stagnant for a long time, whether through checking Soviet infiltration in the whole area, or by breaking the stalemate in the Arab-Israeli conflict, or through opening the road to achieving peace and stability in the Middle East.

These were three major achievements which Egypt accomplished singlehandedly and which the United States failed to achieve or regarding which it remained inactive despite its strength and influence.

These two countries--Egypt and Saudi Arabia--have a special position and particular importance, of which the U.S. Congress should be aware when the aircraft deal is put before it.

Despite all this, certain voices are being raised by some congressmen who are talking about something which is almost a myth--something called "Israeli security." This is at a time when these congressmen know very well that if Israel's security depends on the quantities of weapons it has, then Israel has enough not only to insure its security but also to tempt it to cling to the territories it has grabbed from four Arab countries and to commit further aggression and annexation. These congressmen say in private that Israel's security cannot be achieved by the arms Israel is stockpiling but by the peace it is avoiding. But once a congressman is inside the halls of Congress or on its rostrum, his attention is focused on the voters and on the quarters that influence the elections, and so he again goes back to repeating nonsense about Israeli security.

Therefore, if Congress decides to approve the aircraft deal proposed by President Carter, this would be new evidence that Egypt chose the correct path when it asked that the United States be a "partner" in the cause of peace in the Middle East.

But should the Congress decide otherwise--whether to procrastinate, or postpone the decision, or resort to the much talked about "compromise solution"--then we must ask ourselves: is this not evidence that Israel and its supporters in the United States still maintain the same influence they have had on many congressmen? Does this not show that the Arabs have not yet achieved the degree of influence they should have, despite their tremendous financial power and even after their image has changed from being warmongers to that of peace advocates?

Should we not then say that the Congress' decision is more a test of Arab weakness or strength than it is a test of Israel's weakness or strength?

Finally, the Arab governments and Arab public opinion are awaiting the outcome of the test facing Congress. Many situations of great importance will be decided on the outcome of this difficult test.

SUDANESE PRESIDENT NUMAYRI CONCLUDES VISIT

Numayri Press Conference

NC0417022Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] Talks were resumed today between President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and President Ja'far Numayri at Ra's at-Tin Palace in Alexandria.

President Numayri said he will leave Alexandria for Damascus tomorrow. He expressed optimism concerning the success of his mission to restore Arab solidarity.

After the talks, President Ja'far Numayri held a press conference at which he spoke about the results of his talks with President Anwar as-Sadat.

President Numayri opened the press conference by expressing optimism concerning the success of his mission. He said: There will be high-level meetings soon between Arab leaders and ministers. He said: After meeting with President as-Sadat, I felt that we Arabs agree on objectives but differ on means and procedures. I think this should not be a reason for Arab estrangement but should strengthen Arab contacts on all levels.

Asked about the principles of the Arab Solidarity Committee's action, President Numayri said: For the committee to achieve its aims, it must first remove the obstacles which are in the path of Arab solidarity. There must not be a severance of relations. The vituperations and propaganda campaigns which create an unpleasant climate and weaken the committee's mission must stop. The committee believes that channels of contact should be open between states for bilateral or tripartite meetings aimed at removing any mistrust. The committee is greatly interested in the restoration of relations. He expressed the hope that diplomatic relations will be restored among the states concerned very soon.

Asked about As-Sadat's statements on the need for serious work to insure the success of the anticipated summit conference, President Numayri said: I am for serious action at all times. Any action that is not serious is not effective.

Regarding the removal of obstacles in the path of the committee's work, President Numayri said: If we succeed in removing these obstacles, the door will be open for the convocation of an Arab summit conference. An agenda will be drawn up for that conference and it will be handed to the Arab League Secretariat General for distribution to the kings and presidents.

Asked whether there has been anything specific in this regard, President Numayri said: I have not proposed any summit conference between President as-Sadat and President al-Asad. I am carrying out the mission of the Arab Solidarity Committee which was formed by the Arab League to bring the kings and presidents together in an Arab summit conference. The committee is a partner and not a mediator in this action.

Regarding whether there have been proposals on the holding of bilateral meetings between the presidents, President Numayri said: If there should be any results which would lead us to a bilateral or tripartite meeting or to a meeting of a number of presidents and kings, we will support such meetings.

Regarding bilateral relations between Egypt and Sudan, President Numayri said: I have discussed with President as-Sadat bilateral relations in all fields, integration between Egypt and Sudan, the forthcoming Africa conference and cooperation between the two countries to bring about the success of that conference. We also discussed Egypt's and Sudan's relations with their neighbors, and the Horn of Africa issue.

Regarding Israel's intransigeant stand, President Numayri said: I think Israel is wasting a golden opportunity to establish peace and will lose a great deal by this. Israel has committed an aggression by entering southern Lebanon. By this Israel has lost a great deal of its political support throughout the world and has harmed the peace process. The entire situation is now on the brink of a dangerous precipice.

President Numayri said: I believe Israel is benefitting from Arab differences. The current conditions require that we establish Arab solidarity so as to deal with the situation.

Regarding the participation of Arab League Secretay General Mahmud Riyad in the committee's activities, President Numayri welcomed this participation if Riyad's other obligations permit.

Conerning the date of the convocation of the Arab summit conference, President Numayri said: I expect that if all goes well the conference will be held in 8 weeks. If the kings and presidents agree, I would welcome having the conference held in Khartoum.

Regarding whether the date was far off, President Numayri said: I am giving a distant date so as to enable the committee to accomplish its mission.

Meets With Arab League's Riyad

NC041726Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1620 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 4 May--Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri received Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad at Sa'ls at-Tin Palace in Alexandria this afternoon.

After the 1 and 1/2 hour meeting, Riyad said he and President Numayri continued discussing the subjects they discussed during their meeting in Khartoum toward the end of April. They also discussed the next step to be taken and the visit Riyad and Numayri will pay to Damascus tomorrow morning.

Riyad expressed hope that the upcoming talks will produce positive results and that Arab solidarity will be achieved. The Arab Solidarity Committee has been assigned the task of bringing about Arab solidarity.

Regarding the outcome of his talks with President as-Sadat, Riyad said President as-Sadat declared in his [May Day] speech that he is for Arab solidarity and that he called for the restoration of relations, which are encouraging steps. He added that relations must be restored quickly because the way to confront the Israeli aggression is through a unified Arab stand.

The Arab League secretary general pointed out that differences among the Arab states are not a problem, but the differences must be objective and must not involve policy and vituperations. [as received] The differences among the Arab states must be dealt with rationally.

Numayri, Riyad to Damascus

NC0508355Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0745 GMT 5 May 78 NC

[Excerpts] Alexandria, 5 May--Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad left Alexandria for Damascus this morning to visit Syria within the framework of the mission of the Arab Solidarity Committee.

Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak held a meeting at Ra's at-Tin Palace this morning with Sudanese Vice President and Foreign Minister ar-Rashid at-Tahir within the framework of the mission of the Arab Solidarity Committee.

AS-SADAT RECEIVES RIYAD, ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR

NC0415285Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat has received Arab League Secretary General Mahumud Riyad. They discussed current Arab conditions.

The radio correspondent has learned that Riyad briefed the president on the outcome of his recent visits to Arab states and his meetings with their kings and leaders as part of the efforts to bolster Arab solidarity.

President as-Sadat also received the Romanian ambassador in Cairo. The radio correspondent has learned that the Romanian ambassador handed As-Sadat a personal letter from Romanian President Ceausescu pertaining to the results of his trip to the United States and his meeting with President Carter.

ZIONISTS LINKED TO MURDER OF EGYPTIAN COMMUNIST LEADER

JN041802Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] Paris, 4 May--A leading member of the Egyptian Communist Party, in an exclusive statement to the INA correspondent in Paris, stated that the assassination of Henri Curiel, one of the founders of the party, might be the work of Zionist elements. He confirmed the assassination at noon today of the Egyptian communist leader near his Paris residence.

Henri Curiel was subjected to a number of attempts to deport him from Paris on charges of having ties with various international organizations such as the Baader-Meinhof group and the Red Brigades.

ISRAEL ASKS JORDAN'S HELP TO FIND LOST OFFICER

JN041542Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] The Zionist enemy government today called on the Jordanian regime to cooperate with it in the search for a Zionist officer who disappeared in a mysterious way in the region to the north of the port of Umm ar-Rashrash [old Arabic name for Elat]. AFP says that the enemy government has submitted an official request in this regard to the government of Amman. The enery had announced the disappearance of this officer last Thursday.

It will be recalled that the Umm ar-Rashrash region was recently the area of several Arab resistance operations which led to losses of enemy personnel and buildings.

INA REPORTS IRAQI-CUBAN TALKS CONCLUDED IN HAVANA

JN041709Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1632 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] Havana, 4 May--Official Iraqi-Cuban talks were concluded here today, local time. The Iraqi side was headed by Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf and the Cuban side by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

The INA mission accompanying the vice president says that a joint statement will be issued later on the means of cooperation in the political, economic and cultural fields. The statement will also include the two countries' support and backing for the world liberation movements, especially the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people against the Zionists. It will also include coordination and consultation between Iraq and Cuba to further the nonalined movement.

Mr Ma'ruf extended an invitation to Mr Rodriguez to visit Iraq. The invitation was accepted and its date will be fixed later.

INFORMATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM CUBA, SPAIN VISIT

JN032101Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 3 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 3 May--Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, member of the Culture and Information Bureau in the Ba'th Party National Command and minister of information, returned to Baghdad today at the conclusion of his visit to Cuba and Spain. During his visit to Spain, Mr Hammudi represented the Ba'th Party in the celebrations held on the occasion of unifying the Socialist Workers Party and the Socialist Peoples Party.

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM COMMUNIST YOUTH MEETINGS

JN031937Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1744 GMT 3 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 3 May--The delegation of the General Federation of Iraqi Youth returned to Baghdad this evening after taking part in the Italian Communist Party youth conference and the conference of the Soviet KOMSOMOL held late last month. Mr Kamal 'Isa, head of the delegation and member of the Executive Committee of the General Federation of Iraqi Youth, said on arrival that the Iraqi delegation met with the delegations taking part in these conferences.

IRAQI DELEGATION LEAVES FOR HUNGARY MEETINGS

JN051004Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT 5 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 May--'Ali Husayn, under secretary in the Ministry of Communications and head of the Iraqi side to the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Hungarian committee for economic and technical cooperation, left today for Budapest at the head of a delegation to attend the committee meetings which will begin there today. During its 7-day session, the committee will discuss several topics, including Hungary's participation in the implementation of development plans in Iraq. It will also study the means to activate and develop trade in a manner that will serve the interests of the two friendly countries. The Iraqi delegation includes representatives from the ministries of trade, agriculture and agrarian reform, irrigation, communications, housing and reconstruction, industry and minerals and planning.

DEFENSE COMMITTEE SCORES DAMASCUS ON DETAINEES

JN031130Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 3 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 3 May--The Committee for the Defense of Political Detainees in Syria has denounced the continuation of the campaign of assault and arrest practiced by the regime in Damascus against the people. A statement by the committee's central office, carried by the Voice of Arab Syria, said that despite all protests and denunciations by international and Arab organizations, the fascist regime in Syria still conducts terrorist campaigns by its repressive organs against the struggling sectors of our people without any legal accusations or reasons.

The statement condemned the official organs in Syria for storming the house of citizen Husayn al-Khawwam in Hamah. This citizen and his son were martyred by the bullets of the intelligence squads.

The statement urged Arab and international organizations to intervene to stop these campaigns and release or to refer the detainees to lawful public courts.

AL-QABAS: MOST IRAQI POLITICAL REFUGEES RETURNED HOME

JN041523Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1330 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 4 May--The Kuwaiti daily AL-QABAS today writes that most of the political refugees outside Iraq have returned to Baghdad in response to the decision of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, issued last December. The paper added that the decision provides for pardoning all Iraqi political refugees for crimes and sentences passed against them, including those who were charged or convicted for the incidents in northern Iraq, but excluding those accused of espionage.

Citing a responsible Iraqi source, the paper said that the implementation of the decision is continuing and that the Iraqi Revolution Command Council previously had extended it for 2 months and then for another 3 months. It is due to expire on 19 May.

IRAQ, IRAN SIGN ACCORD ON TOURISM COOPERATION

JN021158Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1102 GMT 2 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 May--A tourism cooperation agreement was signed between Iraq and Iran here today. The agreement was signed for the Iraqi side by Tahir Ahmad Amin, director of the Public Tourism Corporation. It was signed for Iran by Mohammad (Taqi Khoshneysan) under secretary of the ministry concerned with waqf, pilgrims and visits.

The agreement, whose implementation will begin in mid-May, provides for Iraq to welcome 40,000 Iranian tourists this year. It also covers the provision of housing facilities for the Iranian tourist groups at the sites of Iraqi holy places for a period of 1 week.

Sources at the Public Tourism Corporation stated that a larger number of Iranian tourists can be provided for after the completion of four hotels in Karbala' and Al-Kazimiyah and Samarra' by mid-1978. These hotels will cost 13 million dinars.

IRAQ, IRELAND SIGN HEALTH COOPERATION AGREEMENT

JN041528Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1344 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 4 May--Iraq and Ireland signed a health cooperation agreement here today. It was signed for Iraq by Dr Riyad Ibrahim Husayn, minister of health, and for Ireland by Charles J. Haughey, minister of health and social welfare.

Under the agreement, Ireland will support Iraq's development plan in the medical services field by sending physicians, technicians and nurses to work in Iraqi health institutes. Ireland will also provide Iraqi medical schools with specialized medical teaching staffs and will cooperate with Iraq in the medical equipment field and in the pharmaceutical industry.

The agreement also includes the exchange of visits by officials of the health ministries of the two countries and the granting of fellowships for study.

YUGOSLAV DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS BAGHDAD

JN031813Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 3 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 3 May--General Dusan (?Vujatovic), Yugoslav deputy defense minister, arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit to Iraq of several days. The Yugoslav official will hold talks with a number of Iraqi officials on the relations between the two countries.

ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT OFFICIAL ARRIVES BAGHDAD

JN031917Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 3 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 3 May--Muhammad Sa'id (Nadat), chairman of the Political Bureau of the Eritrean Liberation Front--Popular Liberation Forces, arrived here tonight on a visit of several days to Iraq. In a statement following his arrival, (Nadat) praised the strong relations linking the Eritrean revolution and the Ba'th Party. He also praised the Ba'th Party's concern and support for the world liberation movements.

The Eritrean guest will hold talks dealing with the situation in the Horn of Africa and with current developments in Eritrea.

ATH-THAWRAH: SADDAM HUSAYN TALKS ABOUT SOCIALISM

JN041927Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 4 May--Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, has stated that in order for socialism in Iraq to be truly capable of confronting world developments, the socialist reconstruction process must be accompanied by a pan-Arab struggle to achieve unity. It is impossible to implement socialism in its widest scope, capable of confronting the large blocs and their dangers, and providing capabilities for moral and material development in the various spheres in any of the Arab countries separately, outside the framework of the pan-Arab struggle.

This came in a statement by Saddam Husayn to the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, published here today.

Saddam Husayn stressed that the establishment of socialism in Iraq is possible and necessary. However, socialism will not be able to give the true image of the aspirations we have for the Arab homeland. Socialism also will be incapable of fulfilling all the material potential which we want for the construction of a modern state, viable and possessing complete and comprehensive independence in the midst of large blocs.

Husayn further stated that among the moral bases necessary for the establishment of socialism, according to our view, is that it must be based on our morals and traditions, thus leading to the establishment of a new civilization for the Arab nation which will be linked with the past, interact with the present and extend into the future. These morals cannot be separated from the stages of society's development and from the social context of the national and pan-Arab struggle and its requirements. Therefore, the main conditions to be achieved at this present stage of socialist reconstruction must be based on the abolition of exploitation through having the state intervene and impose wide control, allowing for participation in the means of production; and guiding the activities of society and providing the economic and social necessities to enable the Arab person to become capable of forming and shaping new human relations with the entire world. He must also be able to conduct his civilization experiment.

Iraq can establish such an order, while at the same time keeping the various spheres of development and progress open to absorb economic and social developments in the Arab world. It also can keep the banner raised for the pan-Arab struggle, pan-Arab education and unionist activity, in order to achieve their objectives.

Saddam Husayn concluded by explaining that the socialist order sought by Iraq takes into account the importance of the alliances required in the party's struggle against some of the social stratas in Iraq and the Arab countries. It also takes into account the situation in the Arab world stemming from international policies, rightist forces and what all this requires of accurate calculations and patience.

JORDAN TIMES CRITICIZES CARTER'S MIDEAST PERFORMANCE

JN0306066Y JORDAN TIMES in English 3 May 78 p 2 JN

[Editorial: 'A Very Bad Show From Mr Carter']

[Text] Somebody should tell Jimmy Carter that the presidential campaign ended a year and a half ago, and he doesn't have to go around anymore saying silly things and making grandiose pledges that only embarrass and degrade him in the eyes of thinking people. For a man who appears to have summoned forth a refreshing amount of fortitude in his determination to get the Middle East military planes package sale through Congress, he has taken the visit of Israeli Premier Menachem Begin to the U.S. as an opportunity to genuflect faithfully before the altar of Zionism.

But Mr Carter's performance--unlike his intentions--has been thoroughly ungraceful, and possibly even inept. His pledge to Mr Begin about guaranteeing Israel's security for ever and ever is something he hardly had a chance to avoid during Israel's 30th anniversary celebrations. But Mr Carter is being sucked deeper into the maelstrom of Zionist security-consciousness, a maelstrom from which few mortals have emerged ethically intact.

Israel's security is not in doubt--because it obviously has military superiority over the Arabs today, and because the Arabs have come to accept the principle of Israeli statehood, in Resolution 242 and elsewhere. Thus, for Mr Carter to reach ever greater heights of drama and degrees of emphasis in pledging to support the security and survival of Israel is only a demonstration that Mr Carter has fallen deeper and deeper into the Israeli web of "security." The question that holds up a Middle East peace is not Israel's security--it is the Palestinians' rights and the occupation of Arab territory. And on both counts, it is the massive support of the United States that allows Israel to keep these matters unresolved.

Mr Carter so far has proved to be a president of many faces and many moods. While there is widespread feeling in the Arab world that he is a man of good intentions, Mr Carter has the nasty habit of slipping back into his dazed state to pledge unending support for Israel.

Mr Carter is supposed to snap the Israelis out of their insatiable security mania, not fall into it himself.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN DISCUSSES WEST BANK PROBLEMS

JN0419444Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan has stated that the authorities of the Israeli military occupation are continuing to establish settlements in the occupied West Bank. The Israeli authorities, he added, have been able to establish a security barrier all along the confrontation line. His highness said that this so-called Allon Line was the first step taken by the Zionist enemy to control the positions and places overlooking the western side of the Jordan River.

During his meeting at the royal court this afternoon with the participants in the symposium of the Moslem preachers and guides organized by the Ministry of Awqaf, Islamic Affairs and Holy Places, his highness pointed out that the Israeli occupation authorities have exploited the labor force in the West Bank and used it in various Israeli economic activities. Israel, he added, selected unskilled laborers to work only in certain fields without allowing them to benefit from their jobs on a wide scale.

His Highness referred to the support given by Jordan to the towns and cities of the occupied West Bank in order to enable these towns and cities to remain steadfast in the face of the Israeli challenges and to resist the enemy's repressive measures. His Highness said: We have spent about $1 billion on the towns and villages of the West Bank since 1967. We have to face enemy designs on the principle of our connection with the land and our call for steadfastness.

His Highness also said the dangers to which our kinfolk in the occupied West Bank have been subjected have motivated His Majesty King Husayn to call for an Arab summit conference to inform the Arab countries of these dangers, enabling them to bear their historic responsibilities of supporting the steadfastness of the citizens in the occupied territories.

At the end of the meeting, Kamil ash-Sharif, minister of awqaf, Islamic affairs and holy places, presented His Highness with a gift of two copies of the Holy Koran.

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER

(TEXT) Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 May 78 JN

(TEXT) His Majesty King Husayn received at Aqaba today Mr Bohuslav Chnoubek, foreign minister of Czechoslovakia. The meeting was attended by Hasan Ibrahim, minister of foreign affairs, and the Jordanian ambassador to Czechoslovakia.

LABOR MINISTER RETURNS FROM PAKISTAN, MAKES STATEMENT

(TEXT) Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 May 78 JN

(TEXT) Amman, 4 May--Labor Minister Hisam al-'Ajluni and the members of his delegation returned to Amman this afternoon from a week-long visit to Pakistan.

Minister al-'Ajluni said that two agreements on labor and cultural cooperation and a protocol on increasing trade between the two countries were signed during the visit. He said that the agreement on labor cooperation regulates the employment of manpower in both countries, the utilization of skilled Pakistani labor and the training of Jordanian workers.

The cultural cooperation agreement for 1978/1979 provides for granting scholarships to Jordanian students in Pakistani universities, especially the medical and engineering colleges, the granting of scholarships to Pakistani students to the Jordan and al-Yarmuk universities, and the exchange of cultural, information and artistic programs and sports teams between the two countries.

The secretary general of the Jordanian National Planning Council, who was also a member in the delegation, said that the joint Pakistani-Jordanian committee for Economic Cooperation held its periodic meeting during this visit. It was agreed during this meeting that Pakistan will increase its imports of Jordanian phosphates from 60,000 to 200,000 tons and that a direct shipping line will be established between Karachi and Aqaba to encourage trade between Jordan and Pakistan.

The National Planning Council secretary general added that the Pakistani Institute for Science and Technology has welcomed the establishment of relations of cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society in the field of training and research. The Pakistani side stressed cooperation with the Jordanian side in the fields of science, technology, agriculture, animal resources and civil aviation.

SWEDISH COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT

JN041625Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1540 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 4 May--Bo Turesson, Swedish minister of communications, and the delegation accompanying him left Amman today after a 4-day visit to Jordan during which he met with Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran and a number of officials.

The Swedish minister and Jordanian Transport Minister 'Ali as-Suhaymat signed an agreement regulating land transport between Jordan and Sweden.

AR-RA'Y REPORTS ON TRIBAL CLASH IN VILLAGE

JN050909Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 5 May 78 pp 1, 10 JN

[Excerpts] Sahab--A tribal clash took place yesterday afternoon in the village of Sahab in which guns, stones and sticks were used. The clash led to the death of one person, and 40 others were wounded, some seriously.

The incident began with an exchange of insults between members of the az-Zuyud and al-Maharimah tribes. This then developed into a clash in which guns, stones and heavy sticks were used, and a large number of the people of the town, including women, participated. Security forces intervened immediately and managed to control the situation and restore calm after detaining the persons who caused the incident.

The interior minister, the director of public security, Maj Gen Ghazi 'Arabiyyat, and the director of the suburbs police went to Sahab and took precautionary measures to control the situation.

FATAH/PLO FRONT CENTRAL COMMAND MEETS; STATEMENT ISSUED

[Beirut] Lebanese Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[text] The central command of the front of national and patriotic parties in Lebanon has stressed that political action in the current phase to establish the basis for [illegible] must be centered mainly on halting the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon and on the withdrawal of the Israeli occupation forces from that area. This was in a statement following an extraordinary meeting of the front's central command here today, chaired by Kamal Shatila, secretary general of the front, and attended by Ba'th Party Secretary 'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon as well as by the leaders of other groups represented in the front.

The statement praised the role of the Arab deterrent forces in maintaining stability and security in Lebanon and safeguarding the country's people and territory.

The central command called for expediting the formation of the government and [illegible] so that the basis for a real national accord, reflecting unified [illegible] will be achieved.

It also stressed the importance of UN Security Council Resolution 425 calling for [illegible] withdrawal from southern Lebanon to facilitate the work of the UN forces.

The statement affirmed that the national and patriotic front continues its efforts and activities to strengthen the legitimate government out of its complete concern for and [illegible] commitment to the unity of the homeland, the security of the citizen and the establishment of the legitimate government's authority throughout the Lebanese territory.

ARAB NATIONALIST MOVEMENT LEADER ADDRESSES LONDON PRESS CONFERENCE

[Beirut] Voice of the PLO in Arabic 2010 GMT 3 May 78 JN

[text] London, 3 May--Dr 'Abd al-Majid ar-Rafi'i, vice chairman of the political bureau of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, has demanded the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the forces of the Zionist enemy from southern Lebanon. In a press conference held here today on behalf of the delegation of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, Dr ar-Rafi'i said that the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon has resulted in the destruction of many southern Lebanese villages. He said some villages were razed.

Speaking on the aims of the Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon, Ar-Rafi'i said that the enemy aims to permanently occupy vast areas of southern Lebanon so as to protect the extreme rightists and help them establish a fascist regime based on the abrogation of democratic principles and discrimination against the vast majority of the Lebanese people. He added that this fascist, anti-Arab and nondemocratic plotting was the cause of the present civil war and remains the main threat to Lebanese independence and sovereignty.

Ar-Rafi'i said that the enemy also aims at liquidating the Palestinian forces, robbing them of their weapons and redistributing the Palestinians in Lebanon among the neighboring [illegible] countries. He warned against any deviation of the UN forces from their assigned tasks, namely, (?arranging) for the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon. Dr ar-Rafi'i stressed that the Lebanese Nationalist Movement will not give up its guns and will fight until the aggression is defeated and until Israel withdraws from southern Lebanon.

He praised the steadfastness and sacrifices of the Lebanese masses in the south and said that these sacrifices represent the loftiest symbols of defending the land and the right of man to exist.

Dr ar-Rafi'i said that Lebanese-Palestinian relations are an issue which concerns the PLO and the Lebanese state. This issue can be settled on the basic of agreements between the two sides. Dr ar-Rafi'i said that a peaceful solution to the Lebanese crisis can only be achieved through the participation of all sides in the Lebanese dispute and this solution must be based on the principle of Lebanon's integrity, sovereignty and independence.

The conference was attended by reporters, news agency correspondents and representatives of local newspapers. Farid Jubran and Fawwaz Tarabulusi, members of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement delegation, also were present. The delegation is touring a number of Arab and foreign countries in order to coordinate with the progressive forces and parties on the events and situation in the Arab region, particularly in Lebanon.

SHAM'UN, AL-JUMAYYIL MEET, COMMENT ON NEW GOVERNMENT

NC0420002Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] Former President Camille Sham'un met with Phalangist leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil today. After the meeting, Sham'un said that his views and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil's views on all current issues are identical.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said that security is the wealth of Lebanon just as petroleum is the wealth of the Arab states. If the future government will guarantee security, then it will be welcomed. We support any government that restores stability.

The Phalangist leader concluded his statement by calling on everybody to make things easy for the establishment of a new government that will be expected to work for Lebanon and all its people.

UNIFIL COMMANDER ERSKINE ARRIVES IN BEIRUT

NC0417l6Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] UNIFIL commander Maj Gen Emmanuel Erskine arrived in Beirut today. In a statement, he said he does not know the identity of the armed men who clashed with the UN forces in Tyre. However, he will deal with the PLO.

Major General Erskine said that he expects to meet with Yasir 'Arafat soon. He added that the top priority in his mind is to reach a kind of understanding with the Palestinians on the role of the UN forces. He said: We are not here to fight anyone, but it our task to prevent armed men from entering areas under our control.

Major General Erskine visited Colonel Salvan, commander of the French UN unit, in the hospital. He then left for his field post in An-Naqurah.

BEIRUT: NORMAL LIFE RESUMES IN TYRE, GENDARMERIE ASSUME DUTIES

NC0620400Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] Normal life has begun to return to the city of Tyre following the regrettable incidents that occurred there. Shops have opened again, traffic returned to normal and the students have resumed their studies in the government and private schools.

The points at which people cross into the south were busy. Roads swarmed with cars and buses transporting the southerners returning to their villages and homes.

Over 60 families have left the collection points in Sidon and Al-Ghaziyah, in addition to the families which used their own means of transportation.

The UNIFIL checkpoints and observation centers have been reinforced by additional men and equipment. New fortified barriers have been set up in the areas separating them from the Israeli forces. Lebanese gendarmerie forces have assumed their duties at the checkpoints in the villages of Qana, Jwayya and Bi'r as-Salasil.

FRENCH COMMANDER RECOVERING IN BEIRUT HOSPITAL

NC041717Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 May 78 NC

[Text] This evening our reporter contacted one of the aides of Col Pierre Germain Salvan, commander of the French unit, who is in the Hotel Dieu hospital. The aide said that Colonel Salvan's condition is satisfactory and that the colonel is receiving the necessary care.

The aide explained that a detailed medical bulletin will be issued later.

CAR OF MISSING UN OFFICIAL FOUND IN AS-SARAFAND

NC050710Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 5 May 78 NC

[Text] According to UN sources, a car which had been driven by (Colin Rodker), a British expert of the UN supervision organization, was found in the town of As-Sarafand 5 days after the expert's disappearance. These sources say that no signs of violence were evident and that the UN forces are continuing their wide-scale search for (Rodker).

PUBLIC SECURITY DIRECTORATE SUSPENDS AL-JARIDAH

JN0220355Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 2 May--The Public Security Directorate in Lebanon issued a decision today suspending the newspaper AL-JARIDAH for 1 week for having violated the censorship law.

The newspaper published an interview with Deputy Raymond Iddih, leader of the National Bloc Party, who is currently in Paris. In the interview Iddih dealt with the current situation in Lebanon. The censor considered the interview harmful to Lebanese authority.

SUDANESE PRESIDENT NUMAYRI ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN050939Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 5 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Damascus--At 1045 today Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri arrived in Damascus. President Hafiz al-Asad received him at Damascus International Airport. Participating in the reception were Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Sudanese ambassador in Damascus and the heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions accredited to Damascus.

President Numayri is accompanied by Ar-Rashid at-Thair Bakr, vice president and minister of foreign affairs, and Abu Bakr 'Uthman, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyadh arrived in Damascus on the same plane.

TISHRIN: SYRIA WILL NOT MEET WITH CAPITULATIONISTS

JN050603Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 5 May 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Discussing the stand of the Syrian Arab Republic toward the current call to revive Arab solidarity, the newspaper TISHRIN writes a commentary which says that Syria refuses any rapprochement with the capitulationist trend at any level or under any slogan or name. All Arabs who are eager to preserve the dignity of the Arab nation and its rights should adopt this stand in order to topple once and for all the capitulationist trend in the Arab homeland. Arab solidarity is required in the delicate and difficult phase through which the Arab struggle is passing for the sake of a just and durable peace in the Middle East. However, this Arab solidarity loses all significance if it includes the capitulationists and defeatists within its ranks without having them admit the failure of their policy of capitulation and defeatism.

TISHRIN affirms that Arab solidarity cannot be genuine and effective unless it is directed against the Zionist enemy and the forces which support his ambitions, aggression and occupation. For the sake of this Arab solidarity against the enemy, Syria has contested and will continue to contest. For the sake of this Arab solidarity, Syria is seeking all forces eager to preserve Arab rights and interests, and is accepting invitations to attend meetings and conferences. For the sake of this solidarity, Syria has opened and is opening its borders and skies and is extending its hand for cooperation and struggle in all domains. However, eagerness over the [words indistinct] and effectiveness of this solidarity should prevent this trend from becoming a cover for capitulation and the capitulationists and defeatists and those in collusion against the Arab nation. Arab solidarity is required. However, capitaulation to the Zionist enemy and to those who supply him with the means of expansion and aggression is rejected.

ICATU OFFICIAL BACK IN DAMASCUS FOLLOWING MOSCOW VISIT

JN031524Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 3 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus, 3 May--Brother Muhammad 'Umar Basa'id, assistant secretary general for cultural affairs at the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU], returned to Damascus this morning from Moscow after he participated in the celebrations of international Labor Day, 1 May.

In a statement to SANA, Brother Basa'id said that during his visit he held meetings with the leaders of the labor movement in the Soviet Union and discussed with them ways of strengthening and promoting the cooperative relations between the Soviet labor movement and the ICATU.

ALGERIA

ANC LEADER TAMBO LEAVES ALGIERS FOR TRIPOLI

LD041915Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress, left Algiers for Tripoli this afternoon. Before leaving, Tambo said: The aim of my visit to Algeria was to inform President Boumediene and National Liberation Front party leaders about the situation in our country and in southern Africa, as well as the struggle being waged by the peoples of these countries with the material support of Algeria.

The ANC president, who arrived in Algiers on 1 May, was received by President Boumediene and by Slimane Hoffmann, chairman of the party apparatus international relations commission.

A POLISARIO Front delegation also had a meeting with Oliver Tambo. Their discussions concerned an exchange of information on the effective struggle of the two peoples (?for national libertaion).

LIBYA

CHADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN LIBYA

LD042108Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Abdel Kader Kamougue, Chad minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, arrived in Tripoli this evening.

ARMED FORCES CHIEF JABIR ATTENDS MISSILE TESTS

LD302018Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpt] On 28 April at Hamada al-Hamrah, volleys of medium-range missiles were fired at imaginary targets in the Arab Libyan desert.

The missiles scored direct hits and completely destroyed targets situated hundreds of kilometers away. The firing operation was attended by Lt Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Arab Libyan Armed Forces, and a great number of officers of the armed forces.

SUDAN

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT SENDS MESSAGE ON CHAD TO AL-QADHDHAFI

LD031732Y Oudurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] SUNA has learned that Mr 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of Sudan and secretary general of the Sudanese Socialist Union [SSU], has entrusted the Libyan charge d'affaires in Khartoum with a verbal message for Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The message is connected with the deteriorating situation in Chad within the context of continuing efforts by his excellency to improve the situation there.

During his meeting with the Libyan charge d'affaires this afternoon at the SSU building in the presence of Dr Francis Deng, minister of state for foreign affairs, the first vice president discussed the steps he has taken with all the parties to implement the Sabha-Benghazi agreement.

The first vice president also received the Chadian charge d'affaires, who delivered a letter to him from Chadian President Felix Malloum connected with the situation in Chad.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE BRIEFS VICE PRESIIENT IBRAHIM

LD042130Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 May 78 LD/EA

[Summary] This afternoon Vice President 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim received the PLO's Sudan representative, Abu (Haitham), who briefed him on Israel's aggression in southern Lebanon and its consequences for the Palestinian revolution.

They agreed on the need to adhere to the Cairo agreement, which calls for safeguarding the interests of the Lebanese and Palestinians. They also stressed the need for Arabs to unite and adopt a common strategy to insure Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

TUNISIA

LA PRESSE: CARTER STATEMENT 'INCONSISTENT' WITH RESOLUTION 242

LD050152Y Tunis TAP in French 1500 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Dealing with the Middle East question, and President Jimmy Carter's recent statements in particular, the French-language daily LA PRESSE writes:

"Mr Carter's statements are inconsistent with the provisions of Security Council Resolution 242, to which the American President has more than once reaffirmed his adherence.

"Unless it is a case of backpedaling, the White House will find it difficult to reconcile Mr Carter's recent statements with those made earlier.

"Despite the clarifications made after the American President's statements, Washington's attitude gives the impression of vacillating more in tune with the demands of domestic politics and the American electorate than with the international situation and the (?real) demands of peace.

"Perhaps it is this American indecisiveness that explains President as-Sadat's announcement that Egypt is ready to resume its relations with the countries of the 'steadfastness front.'"

"Although he did not express any pessimism, the Egyptian president seems to have given up efforts to keep his disappointed hope alive.

"Therefore, Arab solidarity could emerge from the next planned summit stronger than before."

WESTERN SAHARA

MAURITANIAN, FRENCH FORCES CLASH WITH POLISARIO

PA051251Y Paris AFP in English 1247 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Excerpt] Paris, May 5 (AFP)--Fighting between Mauritanian forces and POLISARIO guerrillas entered its third day today northwest of the mining centre of Zouirat, informed sources said here. Yesterday, sources in the mining town said four French Jaguar jets had caused heavy casualties among the Saharan nationalists, who were then about 100 kms (about 60 miles) northwest of the iron-mining town. Meanwhile, sources in the French capital here today said Mauritania had called in the French air support. They added that, contrary to earlier reports, none of the aircraft was damaged.

POLISARIO CLAIMS 27 APRIL BATTLE VICTORY

LD031456Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 May 78 LD

[Summary] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Defense Ministry has issued a military communique stating that on 27 April, POLISARIO forces ambushed Moroccan forces in Ar-Rassah and Al-Hukaniyah in southern Morocco, killing 24 men and destroying all the convoy's vehicles.

ALGIERS: POLISARIO SATISFIED WITH DELEGATION VISITS TO EUROPE

LD032315Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 3 May 78 LD

[Text] In a statement issued following the recent tour of the Saharan delegation led by Bashir Mustafa as-Sayyid, member of the Executive Committee and secretary general of the front, of several European countries, the POLISARIO Front noted with satisfaction the resolution adopted by the Labor Party in Britain recognizing the front as a national liberation movement. The statement pointed to the positive results of the delegation's stay in West G rmany and the resolution approved by the conference of the Democratic Socialist Party [words indistinct] concerning the struggle of the Saharan people and which condemns the occupation by Morocco and Mauritania of Saharan Democratic Arab Republic territory and the French military intervention against the Saharan people. The statement also expressed satisfaction with the results of the visit to Austria by a front delegation led by As-Sayyid al-Mukhtar, and the solidarity of the Austrian Socialist Liberal Party and the Communist Party with the Saharan people in its struggle against the Moroccan and Mauritanian forces and the imperialist forces which support them. The statement said that the Austrian Communist Party expressed support for the Saharan people's right to self-determination and independence under SDAR leadership.

COMMITTEE FOR SAHARAN SOLIDARITY ENDS MADRID MEETING

LD031452Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 May 78 LD

[Summary] The International Committee for Solidarity with the Saharan People ended its meeting in Madrid. In its statement, the committee calls for an urgent OAU meeting to discuss the Saharan issue before the convening of the Khartoum OAU meeting. The statement also calls for the abrogation of the Madrid agreement and the Spanish-Moroccan fishing agreement. It calls on the UN to face up to its responsibilities. The committee undertakes to intensify its activity in support of people of Sahara, and calls for recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and POLISARIO; it also calls on world youth organizations to observe 20 May as a day of solidarity with the Saharan people. The committee states that its temporary headquarters is in Madrid. It has entrusted three organizations, including the African Youth Movement, with preparing for its next conference to be held in June.

BEGIN COMMENTS ON TALKS IN U.S., SEES HOPE

TA041826Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that in the wake of his talks in Washington he did not say that the talks have created a breakthrough in the negotiations but that there is hope for such a breakthrough. The prime minister made these remarks in a talk with journalists in the air force plane that took him from Chicago to New York. The prime minister reiterated that in the clarifications now being conducted between Israel and the United States there is a possibility of a breakthrough but he is not prepared to guarantee one at this stage. Things will become clearer during the contacts with the United States after the government discusses and decides on certain issues which the United States wishes clarified.

Mr Begin added that in his visits to the Jewish communities of Los Angeles and Chicago he found a positive reaction to Israel's peace plans. According to him, he was deeply impressed by the warm reception in the two towns, not only from the Jewish communities but also from gentile Americans.

Mr Begin said that these receptions and the special reception held by President Carter for Israel's 30th independence can serve as clear proof that there is understanding and friendship between Israel and the United States.

LABOR PARTY CRITICAL OF BEGIN STATEMENTS

TA041512Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Text] The Labor Party says that the prime minister's mistaken assessments have caused damage to Israel's position in the United States and this damage cannot be easily rectified. The party's reaction team says in its statement that after his meeting with President Carter in Washington Menahem Begin defined the state of relations with the United States as a breakthrough and a major change in atmosphere. However, 2 days later the prime minister withdrew these remarks and an embarrassing situation arose. The Labor Party says that the prime minister's mistaken assessments undermine his credibility and cast doubts on his ability to fulfill his duties.

CORRESPONDENT REPORTS DAYAN'S COMMENTS ON U.S. TALKS

TA041642Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Israel is waiting for an Egyptian answer, via the United States, to the question of whether Cairo is prepared to represent the Palestinians in negotiations for a settlement in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. If not, Israel has asked, is Egypt prepared to reach a separate settlement? This is implied in remarks made by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in Jerusalem today. Our political correspondent Yosi La'or reports: [begin recording]

Today, for the first time, the foreign minister touched upon the questions that Israeli submitted in the talks he conducted in Washington last week. There, Dayan wanted to know if the Egyptians are prepared to represent the Arab parties in negotiations for a settlement in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. It can be assumed that this question is being raised in the contacts between the United States and Egypt. At the same time, the Israeli Government will have to answer this question. Will it regard Cairo as a party to substantive negotiations for a settlement on the eastern front.

In the foreign minister's opinion, it is not illogical to conduct such negotiations with Cairo. In the past the Egyptians ruled over the Gaza Strip and thus governed over a third of the population of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. In the question submitted indirectly to Cairo Israel also wishes to find out if Egypt is prepared to make peace with us; if the peace settlement will also apply to the eastern front, and if not, if the Egyptians are prepared to reach a separate settlement. So much for our questions.

As for the answers that the Israeli Government was asked to give, the foreign minister touched upon one of them today--How does Israel propose manifesting Palestinian participation in the determination of their future? The government is being asked to propose a path which is equivalent to the referendum proposed by the United States. In asking this question, is it implied that the United States totally rejects the solution proposed by Israel--a four-sided Israeli, Egyptian, Jordanian, Palestinian committee? The foreign minister's remarks in Jerusalem today imply otherwise. The United States attaches importance to the Israeli-U.S. working paper which includes the Israeli proposal for a solution. Washington regards the working paper as a constructive basis for the negotiations and in the recent talks the Americans paid attention to it with respect to the refugee issue and the four-sided committee.

It transpires from the foreign minister's remarks today that the issue of the eastern front and even the Sinai issue were discussed in detail in Washington. Mr Dayan praised the U.S. secretary of state. In their joint deliberations he found him to be open, wise and constructive.

In conclusion, the foreign minister listed the cornerstones of the Israeli approach to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. According to Dayan, the cornerstones are: IDF presence in the region; the right to purchase land and settle; freedom of movement. The foreign minister explained that with respect to the IDF, solutions would have to be found to three major questions: one, the presence of military forces in camps; two, defense of borders--while the delineation of the autonomy remains undefined, a problem arises with respect to the military defense of borders, Dayan said; and third, the parties will have to determine a mechanism to make clear when and how the IDF will intervene in disturbances of order. [end recording]

More on Dayan Remarks

TA041950Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan today assessed that the United States is disappointed with the manner in which political negotiations have been conducted up to now. As examples, the foreign minister mentioned the unsuccessful attempt by the United States to renew the Geneva conference, the fruitless attempts to bring the PLO into the negotiations and the unsuccessful attempts to bring Jordan to the negotiating table. After these disappointments, the foreign minister said, the Americans are open to new proposals. Mr Dayan made these remarks in a talk this morning in his ministry in Jerusalem. Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram has further details:

The foreign minister said that a continuation of the negotiations in the manner they have been conducted until now is not in our favor and does not bring any benefit. The Egyptian reason for a declaration of principles is that a declaration of this nature would bring Jordan to the negotiations and ease Egypt's position. The attempts to make the declaration of principles attractive to Jordan created pressure on Israel to withdraw totally and to grant the right of self-determination to the Palestinians and created the pressure over 242. Israel found itself in a situation in which it was the only one that made commitments and was asked to make unilateral commitments and end the negotiations even before they had begun.

The foreign minister said that we have decided to try another path. We have to clarify if there is a chance of achieving a settlement and under what conditions. The central question is: Even if we accept Egypt's demand for a total withdrawal and the establishment of a Palestinian state, will As-Sadat agree to a separate peace? Dayan said that we have to remember that Egypt has shares in the Gaza Strip, which was under its rule until 1967.

As for a settlement with Egypt, we have discussed the content of such a settlement--demilitarization, control of the borders, Sharm ash-Shaykh, UN areas, the settlement in the Rafah approaches, security guarantees, the airfields and the interim period.

As for the Palestinian issue, there are certain issues which are cornerstones and which we will have to discuss--among them, the IDF will have to be stationed along the Jordan River, along the mountain ridge and in the Gaza Strip. There is also the question of the settlements that already exist and the purchase of land for additional settlement and the question of the freedom of movement of Israelis in the territories.

The question of Jerusalem is being overmagnified, as he put it, the issue can be resolved. If there is freedom of movement between Judaea and Samaria and Israel then there is no significance to the partitioning of the city.

As for Resolution 242, Dayan said that there is a positive development in the United States. Central figures in the United States appear to have reached the conclusion that this resolution is a collection of principles which can serve as a declaration of principles and there is no need to build a second floor of principles on it.

Foreign Ministry Denies Report

TA042111Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman issued a statement this evening saying: A report made on the Israel Broadcasting Service this evening about the foreign minister's remarks at a briefing for senior officials in the Foreign Ministry is groundless.

Among other things, the report said that the desire of all parties to bring Jordan into the negotiations created pressure on Israel and a situation arose in which we were forced to seek a different way to the formulation of a declaration of principles in order to bring Jordan to the negotiating table.

DAVAR DISCUSSES DAYAN'S PROPOSALS TO U.S.

TA041209Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 May 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Dani'el Bloch]

[Text] The new ideas brought up by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan during his talks in Washington last week were already voiced by him in inner consultations during his visit, along with Prime Minister Begin, in the United States 2 months ago, but at that time the prime minister did not object to them. This has been learned by the DAVAR correspondent from authorized sources in Washington and in Jerusalem.

During the inner consultations in Washington Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan talked about the need for a more flexible formulation of the Israeli attitude to Security Council Resolution 242, and even then he presented several ideas concerning the way to bypass the obstacle of formulating a declaration of principles, and in its stead to begin a substantive discussion with Egypt about all the subjects, including the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

because of the prime minister's objection and because of the severe attitude during the talks on the part of the United States, Dayan did not bring up his suggestions. In political circles in Washington Dayan's return to Israel a day before the prime minister was interpreted as an expression of his anger at Begin's line. However, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Naftali Lavi, explained that the date of the foreign minister's return to Israel had been set before the visit.

Upon his return to Israel, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan started a campaign to convince the government [of his views] at the end of which the formula he had suggested for the clarification of Israel's position toward Security Council Resolution 242 was accepted; he also received approval to bring up new ideas in Washington.

During his U.S. talks, the foreign minister made it clear that Israel was willing to hold a substantive discussion with Egypt on all subjects pertaining to the Sinai, as well as on those pertaining to Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. Israel would be ready to discuss any subject the Egyptians would bring up in these fields, including proposals for withdrawals--should they be raised--security arrangements, demilitarization, and so on, and in these talks Israel would bring up its own proposals according to the government's peace plan. Israel would also be ready to discuss these subjects with Jordan, if it should decide to join the negotiations.

It has been learned that during his talks Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan gained the impression that the United States thinks Egypt and Jordan would not object to some Israeli military presence in Judaea and Samaria for a period of over 5 years, for example in the style of the Sinai warning stations.

IDF DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF CUBANS IN S. LEBANON

TA040942Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 May 78 pp 1, 15 TA

[Excerpt] Israel has no information about the existence of Cuban units in Lebanon or about their activity within the framework of terrorist units. Similarly, there is no confirmation of yesterday's report on the Phalangist radio claiming that 400 Cubans are active in the terrorist organizations' headquarters, dealing with operational activity.

The IDF has found no evidence of the presence of Cuban soldiers in the area captured by it in southern Lebanon. Similarly, no such signs were found even after this week's withdrawal.

Nevertheless, authorized sources emphasize that it must be remembered that Cuba was active in combat in the region when it sent an armored unit to Syria's aid after the Yom Kippur war. That brigade played an active role in the battles of attrition in the Golan Heights enclave.

POST ON GIEREK'S REMARKS ABOUT POLISH RECOGNITION

TA050736Y Jerusalem POST in English 5 May 78 p 16 TA

[Editorial]

[Text] Too much should not be read into Premier Edward Gierek's statement in Warsaw this week that Poland might resume diplomatic relations with Israel "once the Palestinian question is resolved." But neither should it be written off too easily.

The remark, made to a group of Polish journalists, and reported in the Communist party's daily, was accompanied with the reminder that Poland had supported the establishment of the Jewish state 30 years ago, and had had normal relations with it until June 1967. Such admissions are not customarily made in Soviet Bloc countries on so high a level, and with such attendant publicity.

Unwittingly, perhaps, Mr Gierek has lent credence to reports that the issue of Israel is now the subject of a heated debate within the ruling circle of Poland's ruling party. The debate is part of a wider controversy raging between the younger technocrats (it would be much too generous to call them liberals) who are now in the ascendancy, and the old-guard made up of hard-bitten Stalinists and unregenerate nationalists.

The technocrats, led by Mr Gierek, seek to enlist the support of the still disaffected masses of the Polish people by presenting the communist regime as the latest stage in a glorious national tradition. Within that tradition, it is now being asserted, the Jews have a conspicuous and an honorable share, both in achievement and in anguish.

Polish pride, in other words, is to be harnessed to overcome Poland's crippling economic stagnation. At the same time, wider economic links are to be forged with the outside world, notably with the West, making the country somewhat less dependent on Soviet whims.

The goodwill of the American-Jewish community is, understandably enough, counted as an important factor in assuring a sympathetic hearing for Warsaw's case in Washington.

It is against this background that the recent Polish attempts at a rapprochement with the Jewish people, and their state, must be viewed. The most notable expression of this development was the opening of the Jewish pavilion at the Auschwitz memorial last month, with the participation not only of representatives of the World Jewish Congress but of a delegation of ghetto fighters and partisans from Israel.

This was accompanied by a discernible muting of the anti-Semitic--not always even masquerading as anti-Zionist--campaign, that had its origin in Wladyslaw Gomulka's massive assault on the remnants of Polish Jewry after the break in relations with the Jewish state.

While the contribution of the Poles to Jewish martyrology in World War II is still not duly recognized, at least the Jews' torment and heroism in the holocaust is no longer being downplayed, let alone mocked.

A full normalization of ties with the Jewish state is, however, a different matter. During the Israel delegation's stay in Warsaw a few weeks ago, they were assured that prospects were only spoiled by the Lebanese eruption; Mr Gierek's "Palestinian question" appears to be another such excuse.

For all its vaunted sovereignty, Communist Poland will probably not dare take such a dramatic step without the Kremlin's assent. The several Soviet divisions stationed in Poland under the Warsaw Pact will see to that--unless party die-hards make sure in advance that their intervention is not necessary.

Nevertheless, it is encouraging to learn that the matter is under consideration in Warsaw. The restoration of normality would surely be mutually beneficial. But even without any formal act, the Polish Government could go a long way towards reestablishing mutual trust by letting it be known that it will no longer treat Jews as scapegoats nor Israel as an outcast.

One small step in this direction would be to have the Jewish brigade officially "recognized" in the Jewish pavilion, as promised last month.

DMC COMMITTEE DISCUSSES TOTAL WEST BANK WITHDRAWAL

TA042108Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Text] The Foreign Affairs and Security Committee of the DMC has begun to discuss a proposal the main point of which is a willingness for total withdrawal from Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent says that if the proposal is accepted this means that the DMC will leave the government. The proposer, Ru'uven Sinai, the chairman of the Haifa branch of the DMC, says that the political negotiations are at a dead end and the government, headed by Menahem Begin, is unable to propose a compromise that will enable the continuation of negotiations.

Justice Minister Shemu'el Tamir opposed the proposal and said that the government's policy has positive results. According to him, willingness for territorial compromise is acceptable to the DMC and, in his opinion, new decisions should not be made.

FORBIDDEN BOOKS LIST DISTRIBUTED IN TERRITORIES

TA041821Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Text] The military government has distributed a list of 300 books to book merchants in Judaea and Samaria. The sale of these books is forbidden because they contain material inciting against the state. This is a list of forbidden books that has accumulated since the establishment of the military government 11 years ago.

The list includes a book by the Egyptian politician, Yusuf as-Siba'i, who was murdered by the PLO in Cyprus, and also various books of poetry.

PLO LEAFLET INCITES STUDENTS TO DAMAGE VEHICLES

TA050820Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 5 May 78 TA

[Text] Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbasi has learned that the reason for the meticulous searches in Nabulus, even after the curfew has been lifted, is that information has been received that students have been incited to increase attacks on Israeli vehicles.

In recent days windows of three Egged buses were shattered near the Balata camp. PLO leaflets were also found in schools in Janin, Qabatiyah and in Tulkarm. In the leaflets students are called upon to throw incendiary bombs at Israeli vehicles.

The teachers collected the leaflets and gave them to the police.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT BANS GATHERING OF W. BANK NOTABLES

TA040637Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Text] The military government forbade the mayor of Jericho, 'Abd al-'Aziz as-Suwayti, to hold a festive banquet for notables and mayors from the territories to celebrate his return from a fundraising trip in Arab countries.

Several of those invited told our correspondent that the military administration notified them that they had to request advance permission for such events.

MA'ARIV CRITICIZES UN HANDLING OF S. LEBANON SITUATION

TA041235Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 May 78 p 17 TA

[Uri Dan commentary]

[Text] Gen Emmanuel Erskine from Ghana is acting as if he were the general commander of southern Lebanon.

Television viewers in Israel and abroad could see how the commander of the UN force several times rushed the IDF--in not too diplomatic language--to withdraw from all of southern Lebanon, because he and his international forces were ready to enter the area. According to Erskine, the deployment of the UN forces in all of southern Lebanon depends only on the IDF's withdrawal; not on the organization of the units--and their size--at General Erskine's disposal.

That is how things were presented on television. In the field it is much worse.

The UN is constantly pressuring Israel to evacuate all of its soldiers--at once--even from the diminutive security strip; without there being any assurance that the terrorists will not bring the situation back to its former state, or even worse. The pressure is being exerted through Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and various delegations in the international institution which he has recruited to help him, including that of the United States.

At the time this pressure is being exerted by the secretary general, a gloomy atmosphere prevails in the area evacuated by the IDF. The reason for this cannot be summed up only in the fact that the terrorists have reinfiltrated into the area, or that the Lebanese preferred to see the IDF there; but rather because the IDF infiltration--as it was called by a foreign representative who toured the area--was the cause which turned the evacuated areas into a kind of "UN state."

In the area itself an atmosphere of chaos prevails, and the villagers do not know who is lord and who is master: the Syrians, the Lebanese Government, or the UN soldiers.

The latter act as if they own the place; and the Lebanese villagers have been complaining that this state of affairs is worse than occupation. They claim that they are the ones who suffer the most from the international "savior army," and not the terrorists.

There is enough in the above-mentioned reasons to make Israel try to prolong the withdrawal from the security strip in southern Lebanon as long as possible; in order to insure that terrorists do not return to the area close to our border. In addition, there is also the moral commitment to the Christians in their enclaves, who fear that Israel might "betray" them.

That is why there are those in Israel who think that it is necessary for the IDF to hold on to the security strip until the end of the year, or at least until it is more clear how General Erskine's forces are handling the situation.

So far all the assessments of the situation regarding the dates of the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon have been refuted. Each stage of the withdrawal has been accomplished earlier than originally planned--unlike the evaluations that preceded them--because of the international pressures.

SOVIET UNION INCREASING NUMBER OF EXIT VISAS

TA042022Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Excerpt] In the first 4 months of 1978 the Soviet authorities allowed the emigration of about 2,000 Jews each month compared to only 1,000 exit permits issued in the same period last year. The increase in the number of permits granted to Soviet Jews began immediately after the Belgrade conference in September.

KOOR EXPORTS ARTILLERY TO 25 COUNTRIES

TA040830Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 4 May 78 p 5 TA

[Text] ITIM--The armies of 25 countries are today equipped with Israeli artillery systems manufactured by Soltam. This was reported in the Koor organ published recently.

In an article devoted to the plant on the occasion of its receiving the title of 'Koor--excelling exporter' it was stated that these weapon systems are the product of the plant's own planning and development.

Last year the total exports by Soltam reached $85 million, and the forecast for this year is $100 million.

FINANCE MINISTER EHRLICH LEAVES FOR ITALY

TA030930Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 3 May 78 TA

[Text] Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich has left for Italy. He will represent the government at the ceremonies which Milan's Jewish community will hold on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of independence. Before departing the finance minister said he will have no meetings with the Italian leaders. He will return to Israel on the evening of 6 May.

DAYAN'S TOUR TO SCANDINAVIA TO COINCIDE WITH KAMIL'S

TA040632Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 May 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will be the guest of honor in celebrations of Israel's 30th independence day in four Scandinavian countries: Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. Dayan is set to arrive in Oslo on Tuesday to start his tour.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamil is scheduled to be in Scandinavia at the same time.

FORLANI LEAVES, SAYS EFFORTS UNDERWAY TO SAVE MORO

LD041054Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Before his departure from Teheran this morning, the Italian foreign minister announced in an interview with our correspondent that efforts are underway to free Aldo Moro, the distinguished Italian statesman who is now in the hands of the Italian Red Brigades. The foreign minister also condemned all terrorist actions and expressed the need to oppose anything that threatens the stability and security of free countries.

The Italian diplomatic leader, who came to Teheran 3 days ago at the invitation of Abbas 'Ali Khal'atbari, Iran's foreign minister, stressed that the Italian Government has no role in negotiations with the Red Brigades because they are using violence as a political means which the Italian Government, naturally, cannot approve.

The Italian foreign minister, participating in a radio, television and press interview with Iranian and Italian correspondents, in answer to Fereydun Pezheshgan, the correspondent of the Voice of Iran and the Profile of Iran [Iranian television] said that he had had extremely sensitive talks in Teheran and that there had been an opportunity to discuss and exchange views on the most important international issues. Forlani went on to say that the most important subject of interest to both countries was the question of detente, which is of cardinal importance to world security. For this reason the two countries have expressed their interest in strengthening world peace.

Regarding talks in the political field, a senior official in the Italian delegation told the diplomatic correspondent of the Voice and Profile of Iran that the Horn of Africa problem and the Middle East topped the list of political topics discussed. With regard to the latest developments in Afghanistan the two foreign ministers exchanged what information was available to them.

In answer to another question regarding bilateral relations between Iran and Italy, Forlani said: There is an opportunity for further developing cooperation between the two countries, bearing in mind the extensive areas of cooperation already existing. He added: Italy is actively ready to make a significant contribution by participating in the implementation of Iran's next 5-year development plan.

In answer to a question regarding the areas in which Italy is most interested in cooperating with Iran, the Italian foreign minister said: We have many opportunities in this regard. For example, we can specify the production and distribution of energy, oil cooperation, nuclear power plants, port construction and joint investments aimed at exporting joint Iranian and Italian manufactured goods to third countries as areas of interest to us.

Noting that the shah of Iran was favorably disposed toward expanding Iranian-Italian relations, the Italian foreign minister said that Italy supports Iran's position with regard to cooperation with the EEC.

In conclusion, a member of the Italian delegation told the Voice and Profile of Iran correspondent that the most important result of the visit concerned a forthcoming visit by a high-level Italian economic and technical delegation, which will include the highest Italian figures, both from the private sector and the government. During its stay in Teheran, the delegation will identify the main areas for future cooperation between the two countries. The same delegation member said that the two countries have reached agreements in the maritime industry, both in the military and commercial fields, and that talks are expected on providing port facilities for one another's merchant fleet as well as their warships.

JUSTICE MINISTER COMMENTS ON RECENT 'INCIDENTS'

LD041238Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] During today's session of the Majlis, Gholam Reza Kianpur, justice minister, answered a question raised by Monsen Pezeshkpur, deputy from Khorramshahr, about the formation of a revenge committee and the incident involving the planting of bombs in the homes of two lawyers. He said the government has always devoted its efforts to the proper implementation of the laws passed by the legislature aimed at strengthening the foundation and security of the country and which have received the imperial assent. The government firmly believes in the progressive intentions of the country's illustrious leadership, in the Shahanshah, and in providing social security and legal justice for all people of the country.

Referring to the question raised, and based on foreign news agency reports and those published in the papers last Thursday, 27 April, about bombs planted in the homes or the offices of two lawyers, he said that, at any rate, the government regards itself as firmly responsible for protecting the honor, life, respect, property and the home of Iranian citizens on the basis of the Iranian constitution, and it denounces any act, by an individual or by a group, which violates public order and violates an individual's rights.

SENEGALESE PRESIDENT, WIFE CONCLUDE VISIT

LD281052Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 28 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpt] Leopold Sedar Senghor, the president of Senegal, and Mrs Senghor, who traveled to our country last (?Monday) for a private 5-day visit, left Teheran this morning. The Shah and the Shahbanu personally saw off their illustrious guests.

AFGHANISTAN

INTERIOR MINISTRY WARNS AGAINST 'SPIES, SABOTEURS'

LD041857Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 May 78 LD/BK

[Ministry of the Interior statement]

[Text] Social security, the safety of individuals and revolutionary order reign throughout the country. However, (?there is a possibility that by making use) of the revolutionary situation a number of opportunists, spies, subversives, saboteurs and counterrevolutionaries might surface, introducing themselves as revolutionaries and, as a result, (?deceive) the compatriots and (?cause social unrest). In such a situation it is the duty of the (?compatriots), when coming across such individuals, [words indistinct] to take the first opportunity to contact the national revolutionary authorities.

AFP ON NUMBER KILLED DURING AFGHAN COUP

OW042012Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1908 GMT 4 May 78 OW

[Text] Kabul, May 4 (AFP)--Diplomatic circles and foreign nationals residing here have described as "fantastic" reports that 10,000 people were killed in the last week's coup.

The common view among them is that at the most the casualty figure could be around 1,000 killed and wounded in the fighting that continued for 30 hours. Part of the casualties, according to these circles, took place in the presidential palace where, besides slain former president Mohammad Daud and his family members, the number of guards and other staff could not be more than a few hundred.

In the streets, there was no evidence to support claims that thousands perished in the battle. A few bodies were seen by residents after the fighting ended. Reliable sources said that 11 taxi cabs were used to remove bodies from the presidential palace.

There was no reliable estimate of casualties among the two garrisons that resisted the rebel forces. But one Afghan soldier who was in the Khargah camp told AFP that most of the soldiers in his garrison surrendered soon after it came under heavy attack and an advance party of 16 soldiers rushing to the palace was wiped out.

The new Afghan Government has also strongly denied the reports. It has repeatedly stated that the revolution was conducted with the "minimum possible loss of human lives."

Although the exact number of casualties may never be known, most observers are of the view that the exact total lies between a few hundred and over a thousand.

TANJUG: SITUATION 'COMPLETELY NORMALIZED' IN KABUL

LD041828Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1657 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, 4 May [TANJUG]--This evening's issue of the daily "ANIS" [Friendship], the first issue to appear on Kabul newstands after six days, has sold out in no time. The issue includes the first written reports on the profound political changes underway in Afghanistan.

In addition to an editorial entitled "The People Welcome the First Popular Government," the photographs of the new Afghan leadership appear in the paper. The paper carries a photograph of the President of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister Nur Mohammad Taraki and photographs of all government members, including one of Defence Minister Colonel Abdol Qadir whose troops took part in the ouster of the late President Daud's regime.

The paper also carries the full text of an initial declaration by the new authorities, still under the name of the Military Revolutionary Committee, stating the guidelines of the new regime. The declaration states that in domestic policy the new regime will strictly honor the fundamental values of the religion of Islam as well as defend and preserve Afghanistan's independence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

With respect to foreign policy, the declaration states that the new regime will pursue a policy of active and positive neutrality, with efforts focused on ensuring peace and security both in this region as well as in the world, maintaining friendly relations with all peoples and states on the basis of mutual respect and along (?with) full support for the United Nations Charter.

The paper also carries the full texts of the three decrees issued by the Revolutionary Council to date. According to the first decree, the Military Revolutionary Committee is disbanded and a broader republican Revolutionary Council formed whose members include the representatives of the re-united Communist Party and all the members of the just-disbanded Military Committee. The composition of the new supreme organ of authority has not been announced, however.

The second decree is related to the formation of the first revolutionary government of Democratic Afghanistan, presided over by Prime Minister Nur Mohammad Taraki. Under the third decree, the entire property of the former royal family, of which the late President Daud was also a member, is to be confiscated.

Although all local sources of information are extremely reticent, it is evident that a week after the coup the situation in Kabul and Afghanistan has been completely normalized and is under the complete control of the new regime. Minor troop movements are evident in many parts of the city this evening, accompanied by the gradual withdrawal of a large number of tanks from the city's center to its suburbs.

TANJUG: PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS CHANGED IN AFGHANISTAN

LD040848Y Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0729 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Kabul--The Revolutionary Council and the new Afghan Government are receiving many telegrams expressing support from practically all parts of the country. This was announced by the radio here today, throwing a little more light on the situation in the provinces after the military coup of 27 April.

In contrast to the relatively fierce opposition offered to the revolutionary forces in Kabul by the police and guard of the assassinated President Daud in particular, there have been no official reports on the situation in the other areas of the country so far. It has now been reported, however, that all the governors of the 24 Afghan provinces have been changed. In their place, because of martial law, power has been taken over by the commanders of the military territories. As of today, new commanders, mainly young officers, are in these positions.

No changes, however, have taken place in the command cadre in two regions near Kabul. Many observers consider that this indicates the degree of the military's direct participation as the basic driving force of the current changes in Afghanistan.

Six days after the "day of liberation," as the coup by the "revolutionary forces" is called here, the tanks are still in the streets and at the crossroads of Kabul. They are no longer, it is true, in motion, nor active, but stand at key points adorned with flowers for everyone to see. The soldiers on guard chat freely with the people, and activists of the new regime make use of these gatherings to "explain the aims of the revolution." We heard today that there is, on these occasions, decisive avoidance of mentioning the role of the Khalq and Parcham--two factions of the former Afghan Communist Party.

By all accounts, the new regime is now bent on trying to insure the support of the masses. This is the line of the numerous telegrams which have been made public here up to now on the support of the miners' union in the north, and of many religious organizations and associations. Two important decrees have been issued here: on a reduction in the price of bread of nearly 50 percent and on the confiscation of the property of all members of the former royal family, to which President Daud, who was killed in the coup, belonged.

Supplies are completely normal in the towns. Sympathizers of the new regime state with satisfaction that traders now adhere strictly to regulations regarding prices and measures, with no giving of short measure.

The situation on the borders has finally gone back to normal. Air traffic with India and Pakistan was opened yesterday, and, from today, aircraft are also flying to Iran.

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN CONGRATULATIONS REPORTED

LD041825Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 May 78 LD/BK

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Information Directorate has reported that Leonid Brezhnev, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, in a message dated 3 May addressed to Nur Mohammad Taraki, congratulated him on his election as president of the Revolutionary Council and premier of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] and wished him success in his efforts for the progress and advancement of Afghanistan.

The message expressed the hope that relations of friendship, equality and all-round fruitful cooperation, based on friendship, equality, good-neighborliness, respect for national sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs, may develop and grow in strength between the DRA and the USSR.

Gromyko's Congratulatory Message

LD041830Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 May 78 LD/BK

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Information Directorate has reported: A message of congratulations has been sent by Andrey Gromyko, USSR minister of foreign affairs, on the occasion of Hafezollah Amin's taking up his post of deputy premier and minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. In this message Gromyko expressed the hope that relations between the two countries may develop in accordance with the spirit of close cooperation, good-neighborliness and friendship in the interest of peace and international security.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR CALLS ON DEPUTY PREMIER KARMAL

LD041832Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 May 78 LD/BK

[Text] Aleksandr Puzanov, Soviet ambassador in Kabul, paid a courtesy call at 1000 on Babrak Karmal, deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Council and deputy premier of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, in his office.

SRV'S PHAM VAN DONG ANNOUNCES RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME

LD041748Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 May 78 LD/BK

[Text] In a telegram from Hanoi dated 3 May 1978, and addressed to Nur Mohammad Taraki, president of the Revolutionary Council and premier of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], His Excellency Pham Van Dong, premier of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam announced his country's decision to give official recognition to the DRA.

PDRY RECOGNIZES NEW GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN

JN041604Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1455 GMT 4 May 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 4 May--The PDRY today recognized the new Government of Afghanistan. Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council, has sent a cable to the new Afghan president, Nur Mohammad Taraki, in which he states his country's full official recognition of the new Government of Afghanistan.

BULGARIAN, POLISH ENVOYS CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER

LD042242Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 May 78 LD/BK

[Text] Stoyan Radoslavov, Bulgarian ambassador in Kabul, and Boguslaw Paszek, the Polish ambassador, paid courtesy calls on Hafezollah Amin, deputy premier and minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, this morning and this afternoon respectively.

BANGLADESH

PAPER REPORTS ON SITUATION OF BURMESE MOSLEM REFUGEES

BK041315Y Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 27 Apr 78 pp 1, 16 BK

[By a staff correspondent]

[Text] Nearly 20,000 evicted Burmese Moslem nationals have crossed into Bangladesh during the last few days. According to information reaching Dacca, the evicted people stated that they were forced on gunpoint to leave their hearth and home well inside Burmese territory and seek shelter into Bangladesh.

A large number of evicted Burmese Moslem nationals are concentrating at various places near the Bangladesh-Burma border awaiting to enter Bangladesh. Burmese armed personnel are learnt to have opened fire upon such concentration near the border on April 23 killing 100 and injuring many. Since then, the Burmese border forces have resorted to intermittent firing. Some of the bullets fired by the Burmese armed personnel fell well inside Bangladesh territory. Panic stricken Burmese Moslem nationals in thousands were crossing the border to seek shelter in Bangladesh.

The evictees, according to information reaching Dacca, carried harrowing tales of torture, loot, arson and organised raping of women. The evictees entered Bangladesh mainly through Nila, Dum Dhumia, Leda and Teknaf areas.

Evictees are presently living in improvised camps in Bangladesh under extreme hardship. Many of them have entered into jungles fearing action by the Bangladesh authority.

Red Cross authority has been providing medical and other facilities while the civil administration was trying to provide food and shelter with the help of the local people. Large scale loss of life is apprehended due to epidemic and hunger unless adequate food, shelter and antiepidemic measures are taken immediately.

Burmese Moslem nationals uprooted from their hearth and home are living in shabby condition in encampments across the Bangladesh-Burma border. They are left in those encampments in inhuman condition under the open sky.

Influx of refugees from Burma started in March. Some of the Moslem refugees narrated to newsmen in Dacca recently the harrowing story of their eviction by the Burmese authority. By the end of March, the number of evicted Moslem entering Bangladesh swelled to about 8,000, but the Bangladesh authority pushed them back across the border inside Burma to avoid misunderstanding.

These evictees were living in Burma for generations. Conditions were made to deteriorate by a concerted operation launched by the Burmese forcing them to flee to Bangladesh, the refugees said.

It may be recalled that Kazi Anwarul Huq, presidential adviser, visited Burma in the first week of this month as a special envoy of the president to sort out this problem. He is understood to have tried to impress upon the Burmese authority the gravity of the situation and requested the Burmese Government to create condition to stop such influx of Moslems from Burma to Bangladesh. The Burmese foreign minister also visited Bangladesh recently. It is learnt that the Bangladesh Government had requested him to take steps to stop this exodus and proposed to formulate a mechanism to prevent recurrence of such eviction.

But the situation, far from improving, continues to deteriorate, and it is intriguing that such a large exodus of evictees into Bangladesh took place just after the return of the Burmese foreign minister.

The Chittagong divisional administration is apprehending entry of more evicted Moslems from Burma.

USSR TO AID BANGLADESH IN OIL EXPLORATION WORK

BK0412547Y Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 4 May 78

[Text] Under a contract signed in Dacca yesterday, the Soviet Union is to depute its specialists for exploration of oil and gas in Bangladesh. The Soviet specialists will render technical assistance in geological and geophysical survey and laboratory research. The 3-year contract was signed by the secretary of Petro Bangla, Mr M. Karim, and counsellor for economic affairs of the Soviet Embassy in Dacca, Mr Piltchenkov.

Mr Piltchenkov said the new contract is a further step toward fruitful cooperation between Bangladesh and the Soviet Union.

VAJPAYEE DISCUSSES UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT

BK041657Y Delhi ISI in English 1510 GMT 4 May 78 BK

[Text] Replying to a short notice question in the Lok Sabha on 4 May 1978 by Hari Vishnu Kamath whether India will be represented at the ensuing special session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament next month and if so the composition and personnel of India's delegation, the broad outline of the stand that the government propose to take at the UN session, whether it is a fact that the prime minister has had a preliminary exchange of views through letters and or otherwise with the heads of government of some countries and if so the names of those countries and a brief resume of notes and views exchanged, Minister of External Affairs Atal Bihari Vajpayee, replying in the affirmative, said:

The full composition of the Indian delegation, which will be led by the foreign minister, will be finalised in the next few days. The prime minister is scheduled to address the special session on 9 June 1978.

India has been working in concert with other nonalined countries with a view to evolving a common strategy to be adopted and concrete measures to be proposed during the special session for achieving real progress in the field of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament.

In the course of discussions with leaders of several countries, both the prime minister and the minister of external affairs have had exchanges of views in regard to the forthcoming UN special session devoted to disarmament during which it has been repeatedly emphasised that every effort should be made to ensure that special session succeeds in finalising a meaningful, realistic and timebound programme of action for achieving real progress in the field of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament.

AIR [All-India Radio] reports the external affairs minister said that if the opposition parties agreed and the house unanimously adopted a resolution on disarmament, the prime minister would present it to the special session of the UN General Assembly next month as India's point of view. The leader of the opposition, C.M. Stephen, said all the opposition parties were prepared to respond positively to Vajpayee's suggestion so that a resolution was passed unanimously.

Vajpayee said the session was being convened at the initiative of the nonalined nations. A preparatory committee had already drawn up a document. Our effort is that the session should lead to concrete and meaningful results. We are making full preparations for the session. There is a proposal that all countries should agree on a reduction in expenditure on armament. But this cannot be done by any country unilaterally, he said.

The nonalined countries had come to an understanding on the quantum of reduction in their defence budgets. The Coordinating Bureau which was now to meet in New York would discuss the matter further. Certain like-minded countries, besides the nonalined nations, were also working in this direction.

SUPREME COUNT CANCELS SANJAY GANDHI'S BAIL

BK050904Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 May 78 BK

[Text] The Supreme Court today ordered the cancellation of Mr Sanjay Gandhi's bail in the 'Kissa Kursi Ka' [Indian feature film] case for 1 month. The order comes into force from today.

The court, in its order, said that after 1 month Mr Gandhi will be allowed to have fresh bail granted by the sessions judge on the conditions he may like to impose.

A Division Bench of the Supreme Court consisting of the chief Justice, Mr Y.B. Chandrachud, Mr Justice Murtaza Fazal Ali and Mr Justice P.N. Shingle, set aside the Delhi High Court's order rejecting the Delhi administration's application for cancellation of the bail and promptly allowed the administration's appeal.

The 20-page judgement read out by Mr Justice Chandrachud said that Mr Sanjay Gandhi had abused his liberty by tampering with key witnesses in the 'Kissa Kursi Ka' case. Thus, the judgement said, he had forfeited his right to remain free. The ccurt ruled that the complaints of two prosecution witnesses, Mr Yadav and Mr Khedkar, show that Mr Gandhi had tried to tamper with key witnesses in the case.

Mr Sanjay Gandhi, who was present, told the court after the judgement was pronounced that he had received information that he would be bodily harmed in jail. The chief justice, Mr Chandrachud, said he was surprised to know this and observed that he assumes that we are living in a civilized society. He told Mr Gandhi that, even if there is the slightest harm to him in Jail, he can approach the Supreme Court.

The additional solicitor general, Mr Soli Sohrabji, intervened to rebut Mr Gandhi's allegation and described it as absolutely baseless. He said there is rule of law in the country and nothing of this sort would happen.

Immediately after the Supreme Court judgement, Mr Sanjay Gandhi went to the court of the additional sessions judge, Mr O.N. Vohra, where the 'Kissa Kursi Ka' case is being tried. The inspector general of Delhi police told the AIR [All-India Radio] correspondent that he would be taken into custody when the court adjourns after the day's hearing.

AFGHANISTAN AMBASSADOR IN DELHI RELIEVED

BK041105Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 4 May 78 BK

[Text] The president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Mr Nur Mohammad Taraki, has denied that thousands of persons were killed in the 2 days of fighting in his country following the coup, as reported in a section of the Western press. In an interview broadcast by Afghanistan radio, Mr Taraki said only a few, who refused to surrender, were killed.

The new government in Kabul has relieved the Afghan ambassador in New Delhi, Mr Hamidollah Enayat Seraj, of his duties.

YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN DELHI

BK041115Y Delni General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 4 May 78 BK

[Text] In New Delhi the foreign ministers of India and Yugoslavia today underlined the meaningful and close relationship existing between the two countries and their common endeavor to further consolidate nonalinement.

The Yugoslav foreign minister, Mr Milos Minic, arrived in the capital today on a 3-day official visit. He will be having detailed discussions with the Indian external affairs minister, Mr Vajpayee.

PDRY PRIME MINISTER LEAVES DELHI FOR ADEN

BK041252Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 4 May 78 BK

[Text] The prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Mr 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, left New Delhi today for Aden after a day's stay in the capital.

PAKISTAN

HAQ MEETS POLITICAL LEADERS IN LAHORE 3 MAY

BK041430Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 4 May 78 BK

[Text] Four leaders of the Pakistan National Alliance [PNA] led by its president, Maulana Mufti Mahmud, met the chief martial law administrator in Lahore last night. The leaders, besides Maulana Mufti Mahmud, included the vice president of the PNA, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan; Amir of Jamat-E-Islami, Mian Tufail Ahmed; and the Moslem League leader, Chaudhury Zahur Elahi.

The chief of the election cell, Lt Gen Faiz Ali Chisti, and the martial law administrator, Punjab, Lt Gen Savar Khan, were also present at the meeting.

AGHA SHAHI, MALAYSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HOLD TALKS

BK041217Y Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 4 May 78 BK

[Text] Formal talks began in Islamabad this morning between the visiting Malaysian foreign minister, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen, and the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi. A cultural agreement will be signed after the talks.

Last night, Mr Agha Shahi hosted a dinner in honor of the Malaysian foreign minister. Speaking on the occasion, he said the growth of the relations between Pakistan and Malaysia will contribute to the solidarity of the Moslem and Third World nations. He noted that the Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference in Dakar contributed to strengthening the unity and cooperation among the Moslem countries. The Islamic conference provided an important forum for the Third World countries, and its deliberations and announcements attracted the attention of all world capitals.

He expressed confidence that the cultural agreement signed between the two countries during the Malaysian foreign minister's visit will prove of great importance to the growth of bilateral ties.

Mr Agha Shahi stated that in its foreign relations, the Government of Pakistan attaches great importance to working to improve the political climate in our region and to resolving outstanding issues on the basis of universally recognized principles.

Reciprocating these sentiments, Tengku Ahmad Rithaudden said that his visit will contribute to improving the friendly relations between the two countries. He particularly referred to the efforts of the Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference in Dakar for solidarity, the strengthening of cooperation and the advancement of the cause of world peace and security. He thanked the Government of Pakistan for the warm and affectionate welcome accorded him and the members of his delegation.

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